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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, how would you rate your level of confidence in the safety of interisland flights in the CNMI?

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INSIDE

NATION

The 64-year-old Diana Nyad is attempting to swim in a pool for 48 straight hours. ➤ PAGE 16

FOCUS

American adults score below the international average on a global test. ➤ PAGE 18

LIFE & STYLE

Miley Cyrus says she's not sure she'll make up with Sinead O'Connor. ➤ PAGE 21

Chinese govt checks on victims

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Chinese Consul Yu Xiong, left, from the Chinese Consulate General in Los Angeles, California, is interviewed by a news crew from China Central Television Asia Pacific out of Hong Kong after a briefing by CNMI government officials at the hospital yesterday about Sunday's plane crash that claimed three lives and injured four others. Two of the dead and all four survivors are Chinese tourists.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» 1 survivor up for orthopedic surgery on Friday

Some relatives of Sunday's plane crash victims wept—and were consoled—as they went in and out of yesterday afternoon's briefing by CNMI government officials at the hospital. Chinese consular officers out of Los Angeles, California were also on hand to reach out to them.

Of the three who died from the Star Marianas plane crash on Tinian, two are Chinese tourists.

The four survivors are also Chinese nationals.

The youngest survivor was discharged from the Commonwealth Health Center on Monday afternoon.

Three others remain at the hospital in

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ID of crash victims still withheld

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

As of yesterday, CNMI authorities still refused to release the names of the three fatalities as well as the four survivors of Sunday's crash of a Star Marianas commuter plane.

Marvin K. Seman, special assistant for CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, said he understands that there's a lot of request for the release of the names, but that they want to ensure that they first inform the victims' families or their next of kin about the accident.

Seman said they are also getting the families' consent for the release of the names.

"This is a tragic incident. And also on our part we want to ensure that the information, the names that we got are accurate ones. We don't want to violate their rights as well. That's why it is taking long," he said.

Citing sources, the media identified only the pilot as Luis Silva, a native of Mexico. Commonwealth Health officials described the two other fatalities

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Poll: Republicans get blame in shutdown

By CALVIN WOODWARD and JENNIFER AGIESTA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

POLITICS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans are holding Republicans primarily responsible for the partial government shutdown as public esteem sinks for all players in the impasse, President Barack Obama among them, according to a new poll.

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Another CW visa applicant's US tourist visa cancelled. PAGE 3
Tinian partial shutdown lifted despite 'reservations' PAGE 5

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Local

Advantages of EB-5 visa program in CNMI touted

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Marianas EB-5 Regional Center president Juan Carlos Benitez trumpeted the advantages of the EB-5 immigrant investor program in the CNMI as guest of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's monthly meeting yesterday at Pacific Islands Club.

The program was created in 1992 by Congress to stimulate the U.S. economy through job creation and capital investment by foreign investors.

Benitez, however, said the EB-5 immigrant investor program only took off during the time of President George W. Bush when the regulations for the program were finally laid out and finalized.

Under the program, which is administered by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service, foreign investors can obtain a green card with a minimum investment of $1 million.

However, the minimum investment for the CNMI is half that, Benitez said, since the islands is what they call a rural area and so the investment threshold is only $500,000.

Right now, Guam foreign investors need to plunk down $1 million to qualify for the EB-5 program but Benitez expects that to go down to $500,000 due to the U.S. territory's high unemployment rate.

Aside from the lower investment threshold, Benitez said the CNMI is also ideal for investors looking to join the EB-5 program because it is the closest U.S. jurisdiction to Asia.

The CNMI is only a 30-minute flight to Guam, three hours away from Tokyo, Japan and Manila, Philippines, and a four-hour flight to Beijing and Shanghai, China and Seoul, South Korea. In addition, the CNMI is just an eight-hour flight to Hawaii via Guam and offers regular flights schedules to these destinations.

Benitez also touted the CNMI EB-5 program□s advantages vis-à-vis other such programs in the U.S. mainland.

He said the Commonwealth offers the most favorable tax environment in the entire United State. It offers the protection of the U.S. judicial system for business transactions and unrestricted capital repatriation.

Benitez said that doing business in the CNMI also allows investors to import products into the U.S. duty free. He also cited the CNMI's tax incentives, including some for specified industries as well as access to major markets throughout Asia.

MARK RABAGO

Marianas EB-5 Regional Center president Juan Carlos Benitez served as the Saipan Chamber of Commerce guest speaker during its monthly meeting yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret.

Foreign investors are also lured to the CNMI because of its political stability due to it being a commonwealth of the U.S., according to Benitez.

The islands, he said, also has the lowest effective income tax rates in the U.S. and has no estate tax in CNMI and/or worldwide assets outside of the U.S., provided CNMI permanent residents or those acquiring U.S. citizenship through CNMI residency maintain CNMI residency.

The EB-5 program in the CNMI is also ideal for foreign investors because the Commonwealth is a free trade zone and is the only location in the U.S. where Russian and Chinese nationals can travel visa free.

Another little known fact about the CNMI's EB-5 program, Benitez said, is unlike in the U.S. where the government can seize up to 40 percent of your assets upon your death, no such provision exists in the Commonwealth and an investor's heir can keep his or her wealth.

Aside from the obvious advantages of the EB-5 program for foreign investors, Benitez also championed how it could revive a sagging economy by providing jobs. He said one of the requirements for every $500,000 investment is the hiring of at least 10 full-time jobs for qualified U.S. workers. This job creation in turn leads to indirect job creation on the islands, which stimulate economic growth.

Benitez came to the Chamber meeting with Triple J president Bob Jones, who is a principal of the Marianas EB-5 Regional Center. Triple J has already put its Surfrider Resort Spa & Beach Club project under the program.

Jones said that his and Benitez's Marianas EB-5 Regional Center is not allowed to solicit investment from foreign investors already on the island.

Benitez also announced during the meeting that the Marianas EB-5 Regional Center is no longer the lone EB-5 program in the CNMI as Tan Holdings' application has also been recently approved. USCIS gave the nod to Marianas EB-5 Regional Center in January.

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Another CW visa applicant's US tourist visa cancelled

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Elmer Pineda, 47, couldn't help but feel disappointed when his valid U.S. tourist visa was cancelled when he applied for a CW visa at the U.S. Embassy in Manila on Aug. 15, even as another CW permit holder's valid U.S. tourist visa was not cancelled around the same time.

Pineda, a CW-1 permit holder, is so far the second individual whose valid B1/B2 visa was cancelled while applying for a CW visa at the U.S. Embassy in Manila in recent period.

Unlike Pineda, the other one, a 41-year-old CW-2 holder, is still in the Philippines.

"I asked the consul, a male, why he was canceling my tourist visa. It's still valid and I use it to travel to the states. But the consul said I already have a CW visa and I don't need the B1/B2 visa. But I told him I cannot use just the CW visa to go to the U.S. mainland, especially with my child's graduation; I want to be there for my child. I was disappointed and confused but what could I do? Another one I know interviewed on the same day didn't have his U.S. tourist visa cancelled. It is not fair and it is confusing," Pineda told *Saipan Tribune*.

Pineda is a father of three U.S. citizen children and a longtime foreign worker in the CNMI.

"I remember there were statements that the U.S. government will not cancel your valid B1/B2 visa if you apply for a CW visa. I don't believe there's a change in that because others' tourist visas were not cancelled. Why are they applying different rules for people with the same circumstances?" Pineda asked, adding that he is still seeking answers.

Pineda said he decided to come forward when he read the story about the woman whose valid B1/B2 visa was also cancelled.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said yesterday this is a question that needs to be posed to the U.S. State Department. A response from the State Department has yet to be received as of last night.

CW visas may be issued only after CW petitions have been filed with and are approved by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Information about the CW visa application is available at the U.S. Embassy's website at http://manila.usembassy.gov/cnmi-visas.html.

DESPITE WIFE'S RECANTATION OF STATEMENTS

Cop's motion to dismiss domestic violence charges denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A suspended police sergeant's bid to have the domestic violence charges filed against him dismissed has been denied, even after his wife recanted her statements.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ruled yesterday that Rule 12(b) of the Commonwealth Rules of Criminal Procedure does not support the dismissal because weighing the evidence—as requested by Dela Cruz—is a "trial of the general issue."

Rule 12(b) allows defendants to bring pretrial motions concerning "any defense, objection, or request which is capable of determination without the trial of the general issue."

"Moreover, it is widely acknowledged by federal courts that it is improper to weigh the sufficiency of pretrial evidence," the judge pointed out.

The Office of the Attorney General has charged Dela Cruz with assault and battery and disturbing the peace for allegedly beating up his wife on June 7, 2013.

Dela Cruz, through counsel Janet H. King, moved to dismiss the charges, arguing that there is insufficient evident to support the charges.

To support the motion, King submitted a declaration signed by Dela Cruz's wife, Rose Dela Cruz, who is an administrative officer of the Department of Public Safety.

Rose Dela Cruz, 45, says that she lied to police when she accused her husband, Sgt. Dela Cruz, then officer-in-charge of DPS Internal Affairs Office, of beating her up. She said she made up the story after finding out that he had been cheating on her with a younger police officer. She said her statement to police that her husband pushed and elbowed her was untrue.

King argued that the content of the declaration "disproves and counters the essential elements" of the crimes for which Dela Cruz is charged, and thus the charges against him should be dismissed.

In his order, however, Camacho said a review of the sufficiency of the evidence is, in essence, a trial of the general issue.

"Thus, it is not proper for a defendant to challenge the information based on inadequacy of evidence," the judge said, citing precedent.

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SHUTDOWN

From Page 1

It's a struggle with no heroes.

The Associated Press-GfK survey, out Wednesday, affirms expectations by many in Washington—Republicans among them—that the Republicans may end up taking the biggest hit in public opinion from the fiscal paralysis, just as that party did when much of the government closed 17 years ago. But the situation is fluid nine days into the shutdown and there's plenty of disdain to go around.

Overall, 62 percent mainly blamed Republicans for the shutdown. About half said Obama or the Democrats in Congress bear much responsibility.

Asked if she blamed Obama, House Republicans, Senate Democrats or the tea party for the shutdown, Martha Blair, 71, of Kerrville, Texas, said, yes, you bet. All of them.

"Somebody needs to jerk those guys together to get a solution, instead of just saying 'no,'" said Blair, an independent. "It's just so frustrating." It's also costly: She's paid to fly with a group to four national parks in Arizona and California next month and says she can't get her money back or reschedule if the parks remain closed.

The poll found that the hardcore conservative tea party movement is more than a rump of malcontents in the political landscape, as its supporters in Congress have been portrayed by Democrats, but rather a sizable—and divisive—force among Republicans. More than 4 in 10 Republicans identified with the anti-tax, limited government tea party and were more apt than other Republicans to insist that their leaders hold firm in the standoff over reopening government and avoiding a default of the nation's debt in coming weeks.

Most Americans disapprove of the way Obama is handling his job, the poll suggests, with 53 percent unhappy with his performance and 37 percent approving of it. Congress is scraping rock bottom, with a ghastly approval rating of 5 percent.

Indeed, anyone making headlines in the dispute has earned poor marks for his or her trouble, whether it's Democrat Harry Reid, the Senate majority leader; or Republican John Boehner, the House speaker, both with a favorability rating of 18 percent.

And much of the country draws a blank on Republican Ted Cruz of Texas despite his 21-hour Senate speech before the shutdown. Only half in the poll were familiar enough with him to register an opinion. Among those who did, 32 percent viewed him unfavorably; 16 percent favorably.

Comparisons could not be drawn conclusively with how people viewed leaders before the shutdown because the poll was conducted online, while previous AP-GfK surveys were done by telephone. Some changes may be due to the new methodology, not shifts in opinion. Instead, the poll provides a snapshot of public opinion starting in the third day of the shutdown.

The poll comes with both sides dug in and trading blame incessantly. On Tuesday, a proposal by House Republicans to create a working group of 20 lawmakers to tackle deficit issues prompted a White House veto threat, and a plan by Senate Democrats to raise the debt limit by $1 trillion to avoid a default drew a frosty reception from the Republicans. Obama is insisting Republicans reopen government and avert default before any negotiations on deficit reduction or his 2010 health care law are held.

Among the survey's findings:

■ Sixty-eight percent said the shutdown is a major problem for the country, including majorities of Republicans (58 percent), Democrats (82 percent) and independents (57 percent).

■ Fifty-two percent said Obama is not doing enough to cooperate with Republicans to end the shutdown; 63 percent said Republicans aren't doing enough to cooperate with him.

■ Republicans are split on just how much cooperation they want. Among those who do not back the tea party, fully 48 percent say their party should be doing more with Obama to find a solution. But only 15 percent of tea-party Republicans want that outreach. The vast majority of them say Republican leaders are doing what they should with the president, or should do even less with him.

■ People seem conflicted or confused about the showdown over the debt limit. Six in 10 predict an economic crisis if the government's ability to borrow isn't renewed later this month with an increase in the debt limit—an expectation widely shared by economists. Yet only 30 percent say they support raising the limit; 46 percent were neutral on the question.

■ More than 4 in 5 respondents felt no personal impact from the shutdown. For those who did, thwarted vacations to national parks, difficulty getting work done without federal contacts at their desks and hitches in government benefits were among the complaints.

Blair's nine-day trip to national parks with a tour group won't happen if the parks are still closed next month. "I'm concerned," she said, "but it seems kind of trivial to people who are being shut out of work."

In Mount Prospect, Illinois, Barbara Olpinski, 51, a Republican who blames Obama and both parties for the shutdown, says her family is already seeing an impact and that will worsen if the impasse goes on. She's an in-home elderly care director, her daughter is a physician's assistant at a rural clinic that treats patients who rely on government coverage, and her husband is a doctor who can't get flu vaccines for patients on public assistance because deliveries have stopped.

"People don't know how they are going to pay for things, and what will be covered," she said. "Everybody is kind of like holding their wallets."

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted Oct. 3-7 and involved online interviews with 1,227 adults. The survey has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for all respondents.

The survey used GfK's KnowledgePanel, a probability-based Internet panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. Respondents to the survey were first selected randomly using phone or mail survey methods, and were later interviewed for this survey online. People selected for KnowledgePanel who didn't have online access were given that access at no cost to them.

CHINESE

From Page 1

stable condition as of yesterday.

Dr. Sherleen Osmond, a nephrologist and CHC hospital director of medical affairs, said yesterday that one of the survivors is scheduled for orthopedic surgery on Friday at CHC.

An orthopedic surgeon from Guam will do the surgery.

Yu Xiong, consul from the Chinese Consulate General in Los Angeles, California, and vice consul Hongming Wang arrived in the CNMI on Tuesday to reach out of the victims and the families of the plane crash.

"We're very sorry to hear about the bad news that Chinese countrymen were badly injured in this accident, and two of our countrymen passed away," said Yu.

Like the victims' relatives, the Chinese consular officers also received briefings and updates from CNMI government officials about the plane crash.

"We hope they can [get] better and better under the consideration and care of the people not only here in Saipan but also later, in the future, in China… Let's pray for them and we do appreciate what you have done, thank you so much," Yu told reporters after the briefing with CNMI officials.

The Chinese consular officers were thankful for everyone who helped in the rescue, recovery, treatment, and other assistance extended to the victims.

He mentioned medical and emergency response personnel, local and federal agencies, NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross, and members of the Chinese community in the CNMI, among others.

Yu said Saipan itself is a "beautiful" island. Saipan is one of the major islands of the CNMI, along with Rota and Tinian, where the crash happened.

But with the appreciation comes a word of request.

"The most important thing we do hope, that the security measurement, the equipment relevant will be guaranteed, and the proper matters be taken by the federal government and the local government to make sure that every tourist, no matter what country he or she comes from, to guarantee his or her safety," Yu said.

'Much better'

CHC's Dr. Osmond said the three remaining patients are in stable condition.

One was taken off a ventilator yesterday morning; the patient can now breathe on his own.

"He is in serious but stable condition and he needs another 24 hour of observation just to make sure," Dr. Osmond said.

Another one needs orthopedic surgery.

"We're waiting for Dr. Cunningham to come on Friday from Guam to do that surgery," Osmond added.

The other one is now in a regular hospital ward.

"They are all better than when they came in," Osmond said.

Officials from CHC, the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Office of the Governor, and the Marianas Visitors Authority held a news briefing at CHC yesterday about the status of the victims and other updates about the crash, believed to be the worst commercial aviation incident in the CNMI in at least since the early 90s.

A news crew from China Central Television Asia Pacific out of Hong Kong also flew to Saipan Tuesday to cover the accident. They joined the local media at yesterday's news briefing.

Marvin Seman, special adviser for Homeland Security and Emergency Management, said there are still a lot of questions that they cannot answer or confirm at this time, including whether one of the three who died was still alive after the plane crashed on Tinian.

"We're going back to each of the witnesses and the survivors to try and get an account of what actually happened that [day], considering where the plane had crashed, in the thick jungles up there [on] Mt. Lasso, there was no light for more than a mile away. The closest light we could see from the nearest road is that of the radar of Voice of America radio station," he told reporters.

Seman said they have yet to interview the first responders on Tinian, among other things.

Right now, the crash site is still being preserved and secured by the Department of Public Safety-Tinian and the Commonwealth Ports Authority-Ports Police "until such time the investigation is completed," Seman said.

The Federal Aviation Administration, along with the National Transportation and Safety Board, is now investigating the crash.

Seman said the CNMI has also started preparing the return of the bodies to China, pending the autopsy scheduled for yesterday.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, meanwhile, said the governor's office has been communicating with the Chinese Consulate General in Los Angeles "since day one."

MVA's Judy Torres said their China offices have also been monitoring reports in China about the plane crash, adding that it is too early to tell whether the incident would have any impact on arrivals from China.

CHC's Jesse Tudela, meanwhile, said that based on their observation, the families of the victims have "mixed emotions."

"They've been patient with us. They're just trying to get more answers but of course it's under investigation," he said.

'Too early to tell if crash will affect tourism'

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino general manager Tom Liu hopes that Sunday's crash of a Star Marianas commuter plane that killed three people and injured four others won't have any lasting negative effect on Tinian's tourism industry.

Liu, in a telephone interview with the *Saipan Tribune*, said he sympathizes with the victims of the crash and hopes for the speedy recovery of those injured. He also believes the accident, while tragic and very unfortunate, was an isolated case.

He said that since Golden Week just recently ended, tourism traffic to the island has slowed down so there's no telling if the crash has had a negative effect on Tinian's tourist arrivals.

Liu added that since Tinian residents have no alternative means to travel to and from Saipan, they should just block out negative thoughts when commuting between the two islands. He himself just flew back from an all-day meeting on Saipan yesterday.

Liu also confirmed that the week before the ill-fated crash, the hotel was fully booked and operations were very busy due to Golden Week. In fact, Liu said they have been extremely busy the past couple of months.

On the matter of reviving the ferry services between the two islands, Liu said there is no plan yet to relaunch Tinian Shipping and Transportation Inc., which was a subsidiary of Tinian Dynasty.

Tinian Shipping and Transportation suspended its ferry service between Saipan and Tinian in March 2010. The decision was initially announced as temporary as the ferry needed repairs, but more than three years hence, no commercial vessel has plied the route since.

Liu said he and other residents of Tinian are hopeful that an ongoing study by the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority to reestablish the route pans out.

In a presentation last July at the Rotary Club of Saipan, COTA special adviser Thomas J. Camacho said his office is not only looking at the feasibility of an interisland ferry service between Saipan and Tinian but between the latter and Rota as well.

For calendar year 2013 ending July, visitor arrivals to Tinian have jumped 3 percent to 5,711 arrivals compared to 5,558 during the same period last year.

Arrivals from China constitute the bulk of tourists on the island, making up 4,838 of the total. Arrivals from Korea (602), Japan (139), Saipan (108) Guam (13), and the U.S. (3) make up the rest.

The over 400-room Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino has 75,000 square feet of gaming/casino area including The Dynasty Club that offers five VIP rooms.

VICTIMS

From Page 1

and four survivors as Chinese tourists.

Guam chief medical examiner Dr. Aurelio Espinola was set to do an autopsy yesterday on the three fatalities.

Seman said a Federal Aviation Administration inspector is already on the ground doing the investigation since arriving on Tuesday. He can't say, however, if the FAA inspector is already at the crash site on Tinian.

"We are coordinating with him. We are providing resources and support to speed up the process, not necessarily to speed it up but to help him in his efforts," Seman said.

He said he can't answer why there is no investigator from the National Transportation Safety Board.

Seman said his office and the Governor's Office are thankful to all the responders, volunteers, and Red Cross that came out to support and put everything they've got on Sunday to locate the overdue aircraft.

"It is sad that there are some fatalities. Our prayers and condolences to the families as well. For the survivors, our prayers for them for their speedy recovery," he said.

Tinian partial shutdown lifted despite 'reservations'

» Hofschneider: Shutdown should serve as harsh reminder for not passing budget on time

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Fifteen Tinian municipal employees who were furloughed since Oct. 1 were ordered to return to work yesterday following late Tuesday afternoon's signing of a $3.841-million local budget for fiscal year 2014—despite the administration's "reservations" about the local bill.

In his capacity as acting governor late Tuesday afternoon, Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider signed at past 5pm the budget measure, Tinian Local Bill 18-1, into Tinian Local Ordinance 18-1.

"After six days of local government shutdown, I am relieved to enact this local bill into law and restore government activities on Tinian. It is because of the affected employees and their abilities to provide for their families that I am approving this law despite my reservations which I feel compelled to share with you," Hofschneider said in signing the measure.

Hofschneider, a former senator from Tinian, said the partial shutdown of Tinian services and the hardships endured by employees and their families "should serve as a harsh reminder of the consequences of failing to timely pass a balanced budget."

His greatest concern is an over $2 million discrepancy between fiscal year 2013's projected revenues and actual income collected.

"We are all aware of the hardships caused on Tinian when the Dynasty Hotel and Casino was shut down for an extended period of time last year. However, we cannot afford to simply turn a blind eye to the fact that Tinian's economy may face similar problems in 2014," Hofschneider said in his message to Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation chair Sen. Frank Borja (Ind-Tinian) and Tinian Municipal Council chair Antonio SN. Borja.

Hofschneider

Hofschneider said both the Tinian Casino Gaming Commission and the Tinian mayor "should be cognizant of this as they prepare future revenue estimates."

The lieutenant governor encouraged the commission and the mayor "to use more accurate revenue projection models to predict future fiscal income."

The affected employees are those whose salaries come from casino revenues on Tinian. Most government employees on Tinian are funded through CNMI general fund revenues.

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, in an interview yesterday, said he's glad that the 15 furloughed employees are now back to work.

Dela Cruz said it would be up to the Tinian delegation whether to have the affected employees receive their salaries for the days they were furloughed.

Sen. Frank Borja said he is considering a separate bill that would provide back wages to furloughed employees as a result of the partial shutdown, since it "was not their doing."

Hofschneider said there were various safety measures provided in last year's local budget ordinance to address any budget shortfall in fiscal year 2013, "which should have been applied with greater results during that same year."

Section 405 of Tinian Local Ordinance 17-2, for example, allowed the Tinian mayor to proportionately reduce appropriated budget amounts during the course of the fiscal year so as not to create a deficit.

"However, for whatever reason, this Administration has no actual knowledge of how these measures were used during 2013 to handle the shortfall," Hofschneider said.

The fiscal 2014 Tinian local spending measure, Tinian Local Ordinance 18-1, provides the same safety measures to address budget shortfalls.

These measures include work hour cuts, wage cuts, furloughs, reduction-in-force, reduction in expenditures for "all others," or a combination of these.

The work-hour cuts are not supposed to exceed eight hours per biweekly pay period and do not apply to Tinian Gaming Control Commission inspectors.

Hofschneider also said the fiscal 2013 Tinian budget measure specifically requires the Tinian Municipal Treasurer to prepare and transmit a quarterly report analyzing the island's financial status.

"Meeting this requirement during fiscal year 2013 would have been of great help to the Tinian and Aguiguan Municipal Council, the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation and this Administration as we all worked together toward creating a balanced budget for fiscal year 2014," the acting governor said in his transmittal message.

Hofschneider also pointed to Section 408 of Tinian Local Ordnance 17-2 establishing a timeline in which the casino commission and the municipal treasurer, through the Tinian mayor, were to provide projections and proposed appropriations.

Absent the passing of a balanced budget by Oct. 1, 2013, no funds could be spent.

Hofschneider, a former chairman of the Tinian Legislative Delegation, said because budgetary planning steps were not followed in 2013, both deadlines were not met "and our people were left without a livelihood for these past six days."

The lieutenant governor also encourages the mayor to ensure that the Tinian municipal treasurer timely files quarterly reports analyzing the island's financial condition to ensure that Tinian's operational budget can be balanced throughout 2014.

This is also to ensure funds are available to pay government employee salaries and other costs associated with necessary government operations and services.

Heavy rain seen in next few days

Heavy rain is possible in the next few days as a tropical disturbance moves through the Marianas, according to the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

In a weather statement issued yesterday afternoon, it said the tropical disturbance was centered east of the Marianas, about 150 miles east of Saipan.

"This disturbance is expected to move west through the Marianas [on] Thursday and may become a tropical depression west of the islands Thursday night or Friday," the statement notes.

This disturbance is expected to bring heavy showers and isolated thunderstorms to the Marianas in the next couple of days, with 3 to 5 inches of rain likely and higher amounts possible, depending on how the disturbance moves and develops. Additional heavy rain is possible on Saturday. This rainfall will likely produce local flooding at times and may result in mudslides.

Residents who live in a low-lying or flood-prone area are being urged to be prepared for the possibility of flooding on their property over the next couple of days.

"Strong winds are not currently expected with this disturbance but that could change if it develops more quickly than expected. Stay informed on this developing weather situation keep abreast of the latest forecasts and listen for any further statements and possible warnings from the National Weather Service and CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management," the statement adds.

The public is urged continue to monitor official weather statements which will be available through local media sources and NOAA weather radio broadcast on 162.5 megahertz, or call the CNMI dispatch center at 237-8000 or 211, and for the Northern Islands to contact the CNMI dispatch center at high frequency single side band radio on frequency 5.205.0. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM- OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INVITATION TO BID
ITB14-GOV-002
Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project – Marpi, Saipan

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Governor Jude U. Hofschneider are soliciting sealed bids for the Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project – Marpi, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available Friday, October 11, 2013 at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A $100.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference/site visit for this project on Friday, October 18, 2013, 9:00AM ChST at the project site in Marpi. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST October 25, 2013 to Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors.

Sealed bids must be marked "**ITB14-GOV-002, Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 12, 2013. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 12, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 12, 2013 and must be received no later than November 21, 2013 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 AM ChST November 22, 2013. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 10:00 AM ChST November 12, 2013.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Two Hundred Forty (240) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Two Hundred Forty (240) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

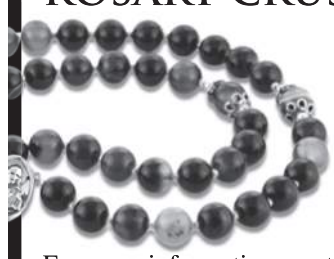
Announcing the 2013
PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE

America is at a historic crossroad. Secularists are trying to push God from the public square. They reject His beneficial action upon society. But without God, where will our leaders get the wisdom to solve the great problems we face?

We must stop the secularist advance and pray to God for help. He will hear us, if we pray through the intercession of His Blessed Mother. That's why we're launching the 2013 Public Square Rosary Crusade.

In *The Secret of the Rosary*, Saint Louis de Montfort said: "Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down His mercy, and Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Ghost, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering."

JOIN THE 2013 PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE TODAY!



What: THE HOLY ROSARY
Where: Garapan Fishing Base
When: October 12, 2013
Time: 11:30 a.m.

For more information, contact:
Carmen at 287-7159 / Lillian at 285-7672 / Daria at 433-3289

Coordinated nationally by Tradition, Family and Property
And its *America Needs Fatima* campaign
For question or comments, e-mail us at
ANFRosaryRally@aol.com
Visit our website at **www.ANF.org**
1-866-584-6012

America Needs Fatima — Because it's the solution for our times!

DPS chief wants burglaries at Mt. Carmel School solved

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero wants the Thief Apprehension Select Coalition to solve the two burglaries last month at Mt. Carmel High School in Chalan Kanoa.

Deleon Guerrero said in an interview that he wants TASC, a special group that focuses on solving burglary, theft, and robbery cases, to concentrate on solving the two incidents.

Deleon Guerrero said they are trying to designate Chalan Kanoa and Susupe as safe zones, yet these burglaries at Mt. Carmel happened.

"It is really something that I think we need to do in order for us to send a positive message to the community that we are really serious in keeping this place a safe zone," he said.

» Commissioner serious in keeping Chalan Kanoa, Susupe a safe zone

The first burglary was during the weekend of Sept. 7 to 8 and the last was on Sept. 15. Several items were stolen from students' lockers in the two incidents.

In the first incident, the suspect or suspects entered the high school building and stole several items from students' lockers. At the junior high school building, the burglar or burglars smashed one classroom glass door and stole several items from that room.

That burglary prompted the Mt. Carmel administration that same day to hire the services of a security company to provide a daily 12-hour security personnel.

Unfortunately, on Sept. 15, a Sunday, the suspect or suspects struck again during daylight hours, breaking into the high school building and stealing several items from students' lockers. They also smashed three glass windows to enter three classrooms.

Deleon Guerrero said he will meet with Mt. Carmel president Galvin Deleon Guerrero next week as he wants to see what further information may be offered.

He said that part of the process in their goal to make Chalan Kanoa and Susupe safe zones is to make sure the community's confidence stays strong with the police's presence.

Deleon Guerrero said they have bike patrols assigned in the area and the crime rate there dropped down since they implemented that.

He said accessibility to Mt. Carmel School is needed because, if police don't have a way to get into the gated compound, that defeats the purpose of having patrols in the area.

"I think we have to set a positive message to the community that we're here and if you do something, we go after you," he said.

The commissioner said that people's confidence is building up and they now see a lot of people walking around the streets. "We want them to walk freely."

UPDATES ON THE PLANE CRASH

Officials from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Office of the Governor answer questions from CNMI and Hong Kong media yesterday afternoon at CHC about Sunday's Star Marianas plane crash on Tinian that killed three and injured four others.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Changes to the importation of pesticides

The Division of Environmental Quality recently adopted pesticide regulations (CR Vol 35, No. 09) redefining the types of pesticides that may be imported into the CNMI, which applies to any person intending to import a pesticide in the CNMI.

Firstly, any banned, misbranded, or unregistered pesticide, or any pesticide device without an establishment number, is not allowed in the CNMI and will be detained or denied entry to the extent permitted by law, by the DEQ, customs officers, or agricultural quarantine officers.

Secondly, pesticides allowed for entry are products that are labeled in the English language and bear a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency registration number and or establishment number on the original label.

Any pesticide or pesticide device manufactured in or shipped by or through any foreign country may be imported as long as a Notice of Intent to Import is submitted to DEQ for prior approval along with the $15 processing fee.

All general use pesticides used to control pests on fruit and/or vegetable crops or other agriculture products may be imported, with applicable forms and fees. This applies to all retailers and wholesalers.

NOIs is also required for pesticides used for crack, crevice, and spot treatment, including termiticide and for pesticides used for fumigation, hospital grade disinfection, and commercial purposes. The definition of "commercial purposes" applies to pest control establishments or green house or golf course or hotel/resort facility and is applying pesticides (general use or restricted use) at the facility. The fee for this type of importation is $15 per product shipment for general use pesticides and remains at $50 for restricted use pesticides.

NOIs are not required for establishments that may import calcium hypochlorite, trichloro-S-trianzinetrione, sodium bromide, sodium hypochlorite and related items; household disinfectants and anti-bacterial chemicals (such as Clorox bleach or 409 or Pine Sol, etc.) or household insect, mosquito, ant, roach chemicals or baits (such as Black Flag, Raid, etc.).

The CNMI Pesticide Regulations are available to any interested person. Call or visit the Division of Environmental Quality Pesticide Management branch at 664-8512, located along Chalan Pale Arnold at the Gualo Rai Center or visit the DEQ website at www.deq.gov.mp. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 4:30pm. ***(DEQ)***

Delegates seek to amend House rules on discharge petitions

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegates from the U.S. territories and the District of Columbia have signed on as original co-sponsors of a bill introduced by Resident Commissioner Pedro R. Pierluisi of Puerto Rico to amend rules governing House procedures that would enable the delegates to file and sign discharge petitions.

Rule 15, Clause 2 of the House rules—the discharge rule—provides a way for the House to bring a bill to the floor for a vote even though it has not been reported from committee. Typically, each bill introduced in the House is referred to a committee, and cannot receive floor consideration until the committee approves the bill. Thus, a House committee can typically prevent floor consideration of a bill by taking no action on that bill. The discharge rule offers the only means by which a majority of House members can secure floor consideration of a bill despite the opposition of House leadership, the committee of jurisdiction, and the Committee on Rules.

The discharge procedure is designed to be difficult to accomplish in order to discourage members from resorting routinely to the procedure. Specifically, a discharge motion may be offered on the floor only if a majority of the 435 voting members of the House—that is, 218 members—first sign a petition in support of the action. The discharge petition has been used successfully in a number of occasions to move important legislation. Namely, the discharge petition has been used successfully to bring McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform legislation for a vote and it also was used to move Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 out of committee for House consideration.

On Oct. 4, Rep. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland filed a discharge petition, H. Res. 372, to bring to the floor a bill to temporarily fund the government and end the shutdown. Signatures can be added beginning on Oct. 12; however, the delegates are unable to sign this discharge petition that would put the government back to work.

"This resolution would enable delegates from the U.S. territories and the District of Columbia to more effectively represent our constituencies by allowing us to play a role, outside of our committees, in determining which bills should be considered on the House floor," said Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) yesterday. "More immediately, this resolution would allow my fellow delegates and I to participate in the effort to compel a House vote on a 'clean' continuing resolution to end the current shutdown.

"The delegates represent about 4.5 million Americans, many of whom are tired of the partisan gridlock in Congress and are struggling with consequences of this shutdown and sequestration. I appreciate Resident Commissioner Pierluisi's leadership of this effort to provide our constituents with a greater voice in debates on critically important legislation, and I stand with my Democratic colleagues in demanding a vote on a clean continuing resolution." ***(PR)***

Wanted: Las Vegas Night volunteers

The Rotary Club of Saipan is looking for volunteers to man their Blackjack, roulette, Texas hold 'em, and craps tables for their upcoming 2013 Las Vegas Night fundraiser.

"We need amateur dealers so if you know anyone who loves to play or knows how to play Blackjack and roulette, tell them we need them. Also, we need dealers for Texas hold 'em. We need as many dealers as possible because the feedback from last year was there were not enough dealers to rotate. We already have one volunteer for the craps table but Mike White has asked for three helpers to help him at the craps table," said Rotary president Laila Y. Boyer during the club's weekly meeting Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The Rotary president also took the opportunity to thank Saipan Stevedore for storing the game tables for Las Vegas Night at the company's air-conditioned rooms all these years. Saipan Stevedore has also agreed to help deliver the tables and help set up everything, she said.

Boyer told members that the Rotary Club is still looking for volunteers to label poker chips for Texas hold 'em. "Members can take chips home and label them while watching TV and the like." She said interested members could contact Rotary Club vice president Richard Cody, who has the poker chips.

Meanwhile, McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu is in the lead for the member with the most ticket sales. She is thus in line to winning a roundtrip ticket to either the Rotary Club district meeting in Tokyo, Japan, or the Rotary Club international meeting in Brisbane, Australia, later this year.

The Rotary Club of Saipan will host the 2013 Las Vegas Night on Oct. 26 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Since it will be held a few days before Oct. 31, the club has decided to adopt a Halloween theme this year.

Tickets for the event can be picked up at the *Marianas Variety* office in Garapan. There will also be ticket sales drives at the Thursday Market at the Garapan Fishing Base and the Joeten Superstore in San Jose every Saturday.

Aside from all-time favorites Blackjack, Texas hold 'em, roulette, and the craps table, the 2013 edition of the event will also see the return of bingo, hosted by former Rotary Club president Ben Babauta.

When the clock strikes midnight on Oct. 26, the Rotary Club will draw the grand prize: a choice of either a 2014 Toyota Yaris, sponsored by Microl Toyota, or $10,000 in cash. ***(Mark Rabago)***

Woodruff says his failure to file reports was inadvertent

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney Stephen C. Woodruff says he will be promptly correcting his default by filing reports in federal court in response to a show-cause order requiring him to explain why he should not be held in civil contempt for not complying with an order.

Woodruff said that he inadvertently failed to file the reports that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona had included in her stay order, principally because there had been no material developments and that his attention was on other matters.

"I will explain this to the court," said Woodruff in an email Tuesday night in response to *Saipan Tribune*'s request for comment about Manglona's show-cause order.

The lawyer said he will ask Manglona to excuse his failure to file.

On Tuesday, Manglona directed Woodruff to appear in court tomorrow, Friday, for a show-cause hearing where he will also be asked to explain why a per diem fine for each day of noncompliance should not be imposed on him.

The judge noted that she ordered Woodruff on Aug. 8, 2013, to notify the court, in writing, within the last five days of each month, of the progress of his disciplinary matter in CNMI courts. In that order, Manglona warned that any failure to comply with the order may subject the lawyer to penalties for civil contempt.

In her show-cause order, Manglona said a review of the docket shows that Woodruff failed to do this in both August and September 2013.

REPLACEMENT FLAG A new CNMI flag flutters in the wind in front of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. yesterday, replacing a torn and faded one that was photographed and published in Tuesday's edition of *Saipan Tribune*. In the background is a U.S. national flag. Every now and then, flags in some CNMI government agencies would become tattered and faded due to the elements such as wind and sun. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Elameto featured on Your Humanities Half-Hour

Jesus M. Elameto will be the featured guest on this Sunday's "Your Humanities Half-Hour" radio program.

Elameto will talk about life in San Jose/Oleai Village in the 1950s and 60s. He will touch on the role of the village commissioner, providing for the family, school days, and more.

This is the second installment of a four-part series focusing on village histories in celebration of CNMI Humanities Month. Two additional villages, Garapan and San Roque, will be featured in upcoming shows in October.

Your Humanities Half-Hour, sponsored by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and hosted by Catherine R. Perry, airs each Sunday afternoon from 2pm to 2:30pm on Power 99.

The show features interviews with scholars, researchers, teachers, and community members on a wide range of humanities topics. ***(NMI Humanities Council)***

9 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged nine beaches on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected beaches are Pau-Pau Beach, Aqua Resort Club, Tanapag Meeting Hall, Micro Beach, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Garapan Beach, CK District 2 drainage, CK District 4 Lally Beach, and San Antonio lift station.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

The division analyzes samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water from 38 locations on Saipan's coast every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kagman High School schedule

Kagman High School students, parents and guardians, take note of next week's schedule:

■ **Monday, Oct. 14:** Columbus Day holiday—no classes

■ **Tuesday, Oct. 15:** State Professional Development—no classes

■ **Wednesday, Oct. 16:** State Professional Development—no classes

■ **Thursday, Oct. 17:** Kagman Schools Joint Progress Report—Half-day session. Elementary students will be released at 12pm. Junior high and high school students will be released at 12:30pm. Progress report pick up will be at the Kagman Elementary from 4pm to 6pm.

If you miss it on Thursday, Kagman High representatives will be present at the GTC and Tanapag elementary campuses on Friday, Oct. 18, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm for any parents in the north side to pick up Kagman High student progress reports.

■ **Friday, Oct. 18:** Full day (regular class session)

For more information, call KHS main office at 237-3840 or e-mail khsayuyu@kagmanhigh.org. ***(PR)***

KagES announcements

The Kagman Schools Joint 1st Quarter mid-progress night will be held on Thursday, Oct. 17, from 4pm to 6pm at the Kagman Elementary School Campus. It will be half-day for all KagES students (Grades K-5th); they will be released at 12pm. You are highly encouraged to please come and meet your child's teacher(s).

Also, there will be no classes on Oct. 14 and 15 for students because of the following reasons:

■ Oct. 14: Holiday, Commonwealth Cultural Day

■ Oct. 15: Northeast Cluster Professional Development

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, contact 664-3913 or 237-3965 or email ruth.calvo@cnmipss.org. ***(PR)***

SAES PTSA meeting set

San Antonio Elementary School will have its PTSA meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22, starting at 6pm in the school cafeteria. ***(PR)***

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, October 24th, 2013 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan
(Tel: 234-9661 ● Fax: 234-9666 ● e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of September 19th, 2013 minutes
5. Public Comments

B. Public Hearings
1. **Conditional Use Application #2013-0472.** The Healthy Farmers, LLC is proposing to operate an Aquaponics farm system that combines hydroponic and aquaculture farming techniques. This use is classified as Aquaculture (Commercial) and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located in Obyan, on lots 036 L 81/ 82 & 88. These areas are zoned as Rural.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2013-0498.** The Blue Spot Corporation is proposing to operate a heavy equipment repair and rental/ general maintenance business. This use is classified as Vehicle Repair, General and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located on lot 549-2-4-4 in San Antonio on Afetna Road. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business.
1. Update on Saipan Adult Gambling Machine Business (Poker) law of 2013, authored by Representative Ray A. Tebuteb, 18th CNMI Legislature
2. Update on Nuisance Abatement & Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2013, authored by Representative Larry I. Deleon Guerrero, 18th CNMI Legislature

E. New Business
1. Office operations report

E. Executive (Closed) Session.

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
for
Blue Spot Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. The Blue Spot Corporation is proposing to operate a heavy equipment repair and rental/ general maintenance business. This use is classified as Vehicle Repair, General and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located on lot 549-2-4-4 in San Antonio on Afetna Road. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: October 24th, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, October 23rd, 2013. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp , via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
for
Healthy Farmers, LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. The Healthy Farmers, LLC is proposing to operate an Aquaponics farm system that combines hydroponic and aquaculture farming techniques. This use is classified as Aquaculture (Commercial) and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located in Obyan, on lots 036 L 81/ 82 & 88. These areas are zoned as Rural.

Date: October 24th, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

CHCC invites NMI community to open forums

The Commonwealth Health Care Corp. is inviting the public to a series of community meetings on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

These open forums are an opportunity for local residents to share ideas that will be valuable in the development of priorities for the CHCC, Rota Health Center, and Tinian Health Center in the coming years. Current and former clients of the Commonwealth Health Center and the clinics on Rota and Tinian are highly encouraged to attend.

These community meetings will kick off with the Rota forum at the Dialysis Room of the Rota Health Center on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013 from 7:00pm-8:30pm.

Next up is the Tinian forum at the Tinian Junior/Senior High School cafeteria on Oct. 21, 2013, from 6pm to 7pm.

The Saipan forum will be held at the Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Oct. 24, 2013, from 5:30pm to 7pm.

These community meetings will be facilitated and hosted by WestCare Pacific Islands representatives, a Guam-based non-profit organization that provides a multitude of services including technical assistance and training throughout the region.

The Tinian Health Center, Rota Health Center, and CHCC are committed to providing the highest quality of care to their respective communities. For more information, on Saipan call Jesse Tudela at 234-8950 Ext. 3101; on Rota, call Rota Health Center resident director Sydie Taisacan at 532-9461; and on Tinian, call Tinian Health Center resident director William "Bill" Cing at 433-9263. ***(CHCC)***

Soroptimist Club NMI sets charter fete on Oct. 27

Soroptimist International of the Americas, an international volunteer organization for business and professional women, recently chartered a new club in the CNMI. The organization's mission is to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.

Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands, or SI NMI, will charter with 18 members who represent professions that include banking, retail, airlines, government sector, etc.

The charter celebration will be held on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2013, at the Kanoa Resort Saipan from 11am to 2pm. Tickets are being sold for $35 per person.

Jill Arenovski from Seafix, Inc. will be installed as the club's first president.

"These are women in our community who wish to contribute their time to helping other women," Arenovski said. "Our club has set out to enhance the status of women and girls, both locally and globally."

SI NMI charter members was sponsored by the Guam-based club, Soroptimist International of the Marianas and will join Soroptimists in more than 100 countries and territories worldwide who contribute time and financial support to community-based projects that benefit women and girls.

Soroptimist's major project, the Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards, provides women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families with financial resources to offset costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education or additional skills and training. In addition, the club will create projects in collaboration with other organizations within the CNMI that cater to women and girls.

For more information about Soroptimist International Northern Mariana Islands, contact Arenovski at (670) 287-9395 or sinorthernmarianaislands@soroptimist.net. ***(SI NMI)***

Partnerships in Information Literacy tomorrow at JKPL

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be hosting Partnerships in Information Literacy tomorrow, Oct. 11, beginning 5pm at the state library.

Librarian Lauren Bartell and teacher and MLIS candidate Angelina Yobech will be making the presentation, which is part of the celebration of October as Information Literary Month.

The discussion will focus on how information literacy can be incorporated in the classroom and how the public library can support classroom teachers.

Partnerships in Information Literacy is open to all educators from both public and private schools. Participants will have access to free education books and materials.

Yobech is a middle school Language Arts teacher for the Public School System. She is currently completing her masters of Library and Information Science at the University of North Texas.

Bartell is an academic librarian. Lauren earned a masters of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University in Detroit. Before coming to Saipan, Lauren worked as a reference librarian at Wayne State University and as library coordinator for Davenport University's Livonia, Michigan campus. In addition to working at the public library, Bartell works as an adjunct reference librarian for online colleges.

For more information, call the state library at 235-7316 or 7322 or visit its website, www.cnmilibrary.com. JKPL is open Tuesday to Friday, from 10am to 6pm, and Saturday from 9am to 4 pm. The library is closed on Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. Call the library ***(Mark Rabago)***

KANOA RESORT DONATES CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kanoa Resort resident manager Mark Ratliff, center, poses with Empty Vessel Minsitry members after making a donation to the organization's Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition set for Nov. 30 at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

You may only weigh a few pounds and you are small enough to fit in our arms, but the amount of joy and happiness you have brought to our lives is larger than life itself! Happy 1st birthday to our baby, Joriana Jisel SN. Takai! Wishing you many more birthdays to come! We love you so much! Greetings come from Grandma and Grandpa Tinian and the family.

Happy 4th birthday to Destiny Ada Richards, who is celebrating her special day today! God bless you always! Greetings come from mommy, daddy, nina, nino, and family.

Happy birthday wishes go out to Jadine Victoria! Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that the people who have the most live the longest! Thanks for being a great lifetime friend! Wishing you nothing but many more birthday blessing your way. We love you to the moon and beyond. Cheers! Greetings come from your bros, family, and friends.

October 10, 2005

NMI takes submerged lands issue to Supreme Court

The CNMI government has taken the dispute over 264,000-square miles of submerged lands in the Northern Marianas to the U.S. Supreme Court, filing Thursday a petition that seeks to review and reverse a ruling of an appellate court that affirmed the federal government's ownership of the lands. Assistant attorneys general James Livingstone and Kenneth Barden petitioned the High Court for a writ of certiorari, which would compel the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to certify the records of the case to the Supreme Court for the latter's review of possible errors by the appellate court.

DPH makes concession but proceeds with medical malpractice regs

The Department of Public Health has made some concession, but is proceeding with strongly opposed regulations on medical malpractice. The regulations, which make malpractice liability coverage a mandatory requirement for the medical staff at the Commonwealth Health Center, were adopted recently despite opposition from doctors. According to a summary of comments received by DPH, most physicians disagree with the regulations because malpractice insurance was extremely difficult to obtain and unaffordable to them.

October 10, 2006

NMI courts increase fees

The Commonwealth courts raised their fees last week after the Legislature failed to act on the fee hike proposal. The CNMI Judiciary ordered the new fee schedule implemented effective last Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2006. In the order, Chief Justice Miguel Demapan and the two other CNMI justices recalled that the proposed fee schedule was submitted on Aug. 4 to the 15th Legislature for approval. The 60-day deadline has ended and neither the Senate nor the House of Representatives has disapproved the proposal. The 60th day fell on Oct. 3, 2006. The new fee schedule entails increases to some existing court fees and new charges for currently free services.

Progress seen in Headnote 3(a) measure

The bill that seeks to amend General Headnote 3(a)(iv)(A) will be considered in the U.S. Senate during the lame duck congressional session after the Nov. 7 mid-term elections, according to special assistant for trade relations Richard A. Pierce, quoting a Senate committee aide. "This is positive news for the CNMI's work toward reviving our depressed local economy, and positive also considering the opposition filed by domestic textile concerns before the Senate Finance Committee," Pierce said. Senate Bill S. 1954, the "Insular Possessions Act of 2005," is currently attached to hundreds of other bills on a miscellaneous tariff bill, or MTB. It aims to reduce the value-added requirement for apparel manufactured in the CNMI destined for U.S. consumers.

October 10, 2007

Draft zoning law subdivides Saipan into 13 districts

The Commonwealth Zoning Board released yesterday for public review a draft zoning law that would subdivide Saipan into 13 zoning districts and guide land development over each of the districts. The draft law updates the 1993 Saipan Zoning Law to address the current pattern of land use, issues, and government organization. Some of key benefits expected from the proposed legislation are the improved quality of tourist areas like Garapan and Beach Road, faster processing of zoning permits, and the preservation of "rural" areas on the island.

Community urged to welcome saint's relics

Rev. Fr. Isaac Ayuyu graced yesterday's Rotary Club of Saipan's weekly meeting to invite business leaders to take part in welcoming the visit of St. Therese of Lisieux's relics to the CNMI. Ayuyu, who extended the invitation on behalf of Bishop Tomas A. Camacho, said the visit would be a "beautiful honor" for the CNMI. The relics of venerable St. Therese of Lisieux is scheduled to visit Saipan, Tinian and Rota beginning tomorrow, Oct. 11. It will be coming from Guam where it is currently being venerated. It will be brought to the CNMI by at least 20 people that include Carmelites from Guam. This is the second time for Guam to host the relics, which were flown straight from France.

Spc. Charles C. Pangelinan, left, and Staff Sgt. Joshua M. Losongco of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, display their Army Achievement Medal certificates after earning NTM-A Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter honors, respectively, late September at Camp Spann, Balkh Province, Afghanistan.

U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Command Sgt. Maj. Judson A. Gee Jr., left, CSM of Regional Command-North, NTM-A, awards Staff Sgt. Joshua M. Losongco, squad leader of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, GUARNG, with an Army Achievement Medal after Losongco earned the NTM-A's NCO of the Quarter late September at Camp Spann, Balkh Province, Afghanistan.

U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

NTM-A honors Guam soldiers again

By SGT EDDIE SIGUENZA
GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

CAMP SPANN, Afghanistan—The professionalism of Guam Army National Guard soldiers in performing their Operation Enduring Freedom mission was recognized once again as two "Chamorri Warriors" swept NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan honors in September, for the second consecutive quarter.

Staff Sgt. Joshua M. Losongco, a squad leader from Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, earned the NTM-A's Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter while fellow Alpha Company soldier Spc. Charles C. Pangelinan captured Soldier of the Quarter recognition.

The Guam pair stood before a board of senior noncommissioned officers, some of whom are serving in active duty roles in the U.S. Army, and successfully answered questions ranging from military history to current OEF operations.

"Both of them reflected leadership and professionalism that put them in a category above others. It showed a lot about their character," said Command Sgt. Maj. Judson A. Gee Jr., of Regional Command-North, NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A). "Their command presence was the biggest thing that stood out. They took the time away from their normal duties to prepare for the competition. That says a lot about them and the Guam Army Guard."

Their victory follows Guam's success during August's NTM-A honors. Charlie Company's Eric G. Gatmen won Soldier of the (Third) Quarter, while Sgt. Gordon G. Blackmon took top NCO of the (Third) Quarter, creating the first Guam sweep. Pangelinan and Losongco followed two months later.

"It's a key stepping stone in my military career," said Pangelinan, who was promoted to his present rank after receiving an Army award for his achievements. "It's a big accomplishment for me. I had to go against experienced specialists to win it."

Pangelinan, 21, an Agat, Guam resident, is one of Alpha's communication specialists. He's a radio and telephone operator.

Losongco edged out his closest competitor, an engineer from an active U.S. Army unit, to earn the NTM-A title. He said he wanted to win the competition for his unit, currently located in northern Afghanistan.

"It was an honor to represent Alpha," Losongco said. "I wanted to take on the challenge. There was a lot of studying to do off duty, so it really was about time management. That was the most challenging part."

Gee awarded Losongco and Pangelinan with Army Achievement Awards. He commended both soldiers during Alpha's late September formation at Camp Spann, Afghanistan.

The NTM-A is a subordinate of the International Security Assistance Force, the U.S.-led coalition force assigned to assist the Afghan government and its security forces. The NTM-A is headquartered at Camp Eggers, Kabul. More than two dozen NATO and about 10 non-NATO countries currently support NTM-A's goals and mission.

"Just about every organization out here knows Guam has outstanding soldiers," said Command Sgt. Maj. Mel Hennegan, of Task Force Guam. "This is another example of Guam Guardsmen setting goals and reaching them. They [Losongco and Pangelinan] stepped forward and received what they properly earned."

Command Sgt. Maj. Judson A. Gee Jr., left, CSM of Regional Command-North, NTM-A, awards Pfc. Charles C. Pangelinan of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, GUARNG, with an Army Achievement Medal after Pangelinan earned the NTM-A's Soldier of the Quarter late September at Camp Spann, Balkh Province, Afghanistan.

U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Staff Sgt. Joshua M. Losongco of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, GUARNG, right, receives an Army Achievement Medal from Command Sgt. Maj. Judson A. Gee Jr., left, CSM of Regional Command-North, NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan, after Losongco earned the NTM-A's NCO of the Quarter late September at Camp Spann, Balkh Province, Afghanistan.

U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Pfc. Charles C. Pangelinan of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, GUARNG, right, receives an Army Achievement Medal from Command Sgt. Maj. Judson A. Gee Jr., left, CSM of Regional Command-North, NTM-A, after Pangelinan earned the NTM-A's Soldier of the Quarter honor late September at Camp Spann, Balkh Province, Afghanistan.

U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Terrorism and American justice

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times *on Tuesday, Oct. 8:*

Thanks to a dramatic operation by U.S. military and intelligence agencies in Libya over the weekend, a suspected al-Qaida figure indicted in the 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa will finally face American justice. The capture of Abu Anas al-Liby—and a raid the same day on the home of a leader of al-Qaida's affiliate in Somalia—suggest that the Obama administration is willing to incur the risks necessary to take some alleged terrorists alive. That may signal an overdue shift away from a controversial and counterproductive policy of targeted killings.

Nevertheless, if it is not handled correctly, the capture of al-Liby could provoke a backlash not only in Libya but also from nations that remember the George W. Bush administration's policy of "extraordinary rendition," under which suspected terrorists were seized and subjected to torture. Understandably, the United States wants to question al-Liby about al-Qaida activities in North Africa. But it needs to promptly bring him to the United States and afford him the protections of criminal law. The Pentagon said he was "currently lawfully detained by the U.S. military in a secure location outside of Libya." (The New York Times reported he was being held on a U.S. Navy ship in the Mediterranean.)

To his credit, President Obama has prohibited the use of "enhanced interrogation" methods such as waterboarding—i.e., torture—that were employed in now-closed secret Central Intelligence Agency prisons overseas. But suspicions linger about whether this country is abiding by international human rights standards.

For instance, although the administration has expressed a preference for trying prominent terrorism suspects in civilian court, it has put some suspects on trial before military commissions and claimed the right to hold dozens of other detainees indefinitely without trial. (In May, Obama said the status of those prisoners could be resolved "consistent with our commitment to the rule of law," but no such solution has been announced.) In another troubling development, the U.S. has delayed informing some suspected terrorists—including accused Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, a U.S. citizen—of their rights under an elastic interpretation of the "public safety exception" to the Miranda rule.

In fairness to the administration, the acts allegedly committed by Al Liby are both violations of U.S. criminal law and part of an international campaign against American interests that many see as a war. (A State Department spokeswoman said Monday that Al Liby's detention was justified by the Authorization for Use of Military Force passed by Congress after 9/11.) But in defending al-Liby's capture, Secretary of State John F. Kerry indicated that the administration's primary goal was to "hold those accountable who conduct acts of terror." If that's the case, the sooner he is transferred to the criminal justice system, the better.

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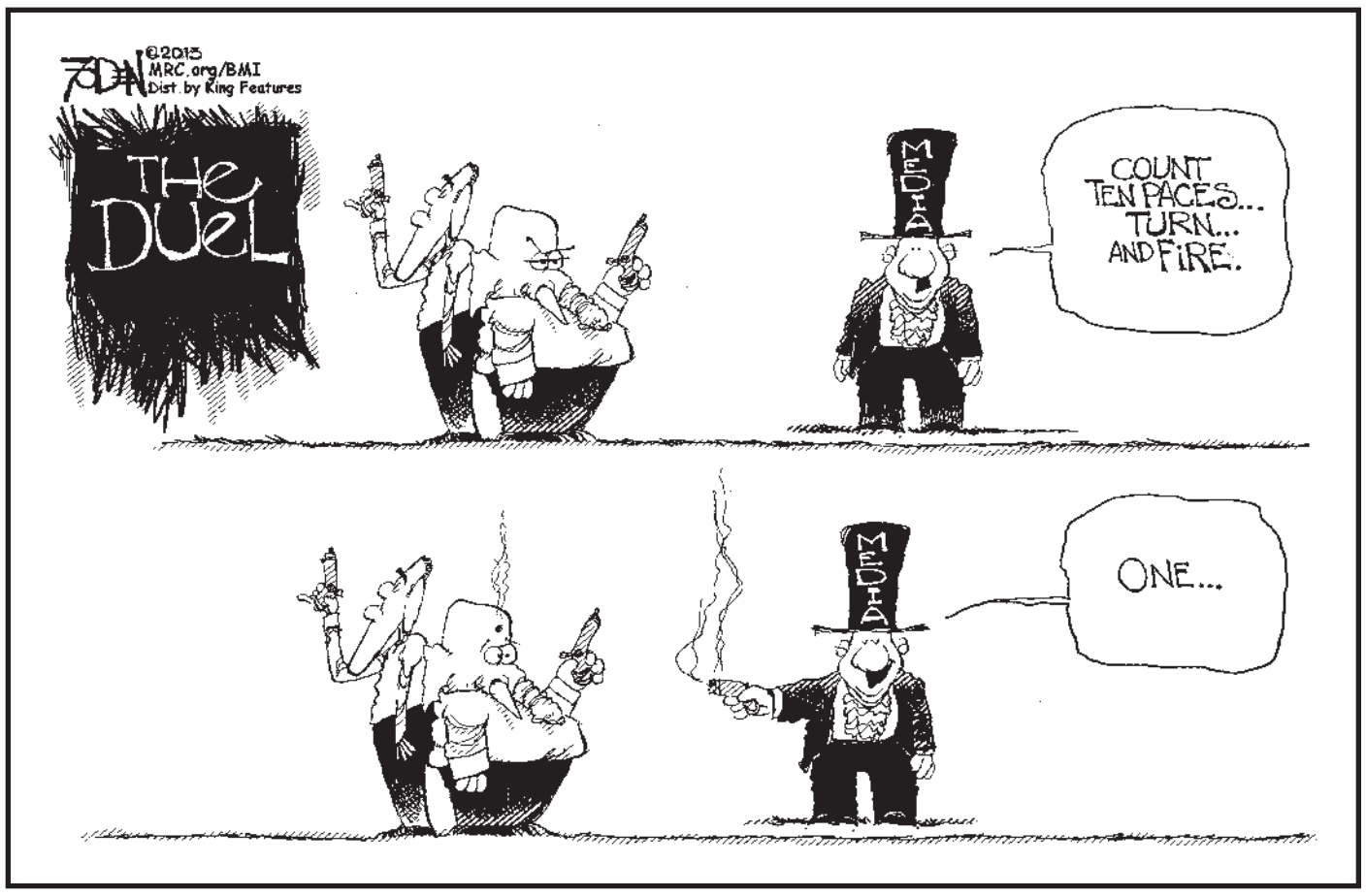


'Socialism' charge doesn't stick as Obamacare exchanges open

By MICHAEL SMERCONISH
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Michael Smerconish writes for The Philadelphia Inquirer. *Readers may contact him via www.smerconish.com.*

You know who should be angry about Obamacare? Real socialists. The tea party opponents of the Affordable Care Act promised them a government incursion that the new law does not deliver.

Think back to the rallies of 2009 and 2010. All those signs mocking President Obama with the word socialist emblazoned upon them were as common as Gadsden ("Don't Tread on Me") flags. But the health-care exchanges that launched Tuesday bear no resemblance to what Merriam-Webster defines as "a way of organizing a society in which major industries are owned and controlled by the government rather than by individual people and companies."

And actual socialists have noticed.

"Obamacare cannot be considered socialist in any way," according to Greg Pason, the national secretary for Socialist Party USA.

"The ACA program relies on private health insurance companies to manage health services," Pason said. "A socialized system would not include 'health insurance,' but would be an actual national health-care system which would be publicly funded through progressive taxation and controlled by democratically elected assemblies of health-care workers and patients."

He's right. Under the ACA, health insurance in America is still being delivered by private practitioners and paid for by private insurers. In fact, the vast majority of Americans who receive their health insurance from employer-paid plans will see no discernible change in their coverage or delivery, and need not access the exchanges. The only people who have to access the exchanges are the uninsured or those in the individual market (the 12 million to 15 million who purchase insurance for themselves). Soon, small businesses with 50 or fewer workers will go on the "SHOP exchange." Seniors are another group that should experience no change.

"Those who are reliant on Medicare need not be concerned, either," Mary Agnes Carey of Kaiser Health News told me. "Medicare has its own separate enrollment period. It starts in just a couple of weeks. The Medicare enrollment period is if you want to switch within Medicare to a different plan. ... But regarding the Affordable Care Act and the health insurance exchanges, you don't have to do anything."

The ACA as implemented bears little resemblance to the fears that were once expressed in fierce opposition. Typical was an event that occurred Aug. 2, 2009, when Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of Health and Human Services, and Sen. Arlen Specter faced a raucous crowd at the National Constitution Center prior to the passage of Obamacare. On that summer Sunday, an overflowing crowd booed and jeered the duo. The Philadelphia Inquirer reported that a group in the back continually disrupted the gathering with shouts of "Assisted suicide," "Abortion," and, of course, "Socialism." One photograph shows a sign that said, "Welcome to the United States Socialist Republic."

On Friday, I asked Sebelius whether those complaints bore any resemblance to what has just been implemented.

"Well, it actually, Michael, couldn't be further from socialism," she told me. "These are private insurance plans being sold in a very competitive market. So one of the things the Affordable Care Act has done is to create a market. We had monopolies in many states for people who were in the so-called individual market—one company selling whatever they wanted and actually very few consumer protections. So, many of the people now eligible for not only financial assistance from the federal government, but insurance products for the first time, have the same kind of easy way to shop that people could shop for a television and look at an amazon.com website."

The further irony is that those who were quick to level the "socialist" charge were advocating for the right of people to remain uninsured and burden everyone else, which CNN's Jake Tapper recently raised with Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah: "When did Republicans start saying, 'That's OK, you can freeload'?"

"I don't think that's a fair characterization of the Republican position on this at all," Lee replied.

Tapper responded: "If you're against the individual mandate, or any sort of requirement that people have health insurance, then that is your position."

The only liberty interest being sacrificed under the ACA is one's ability to be uninsured. And even that is violable. Carey reminded me that you can still exercise your right to be uninsured, but you will pay a fine.

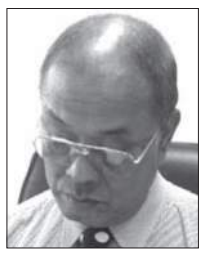
Obama never effectively rebutted the socialism charge, not that it would have made a difference. The proof that the opposition was rooted in something other than the S-word was evident when Mitt Romney captured the GOP nomination, even though Romneycare and Obamacare have so much in common: Each fashioned a government solution to the problem of the uninsured, and both provided universal coverage, utilized exchanges, offered a subsidy to those who cannot afford coverage, and included no opt-out provision.

Only time will tell if the "affordable" portion of the act's title is warranted. In a Time magazine piece in February, Steve Brill explained that the disparity in health-care costs was often dependent upon who was paying the bill, and argued that we need government regulation of pricing. He worries that Obamacare is all about who pays rather than how much is paid. It's much too soon to know if it will work, and surely it will be tweaked. The only thing for certain is what it isn't—socialism.

I Chalan Iya Hame

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



Anaku' na karera esta tafaposgue kumu natibu. I chalan ni ta pokakate pa'gu gaige na maputa' dos gi punta gi san-mena.

1). Agapa' ha sede hit gumuadog konsiensiata haf' futtunan natibu yan famaguonta.

2). Akague ta tatiye i presente gi hilu' modetnu na karera 'nai mamaya' hinassota haf' enfin malago'ta kumu trañkilu na futtunan i famaguon-ta.

I asuntu seriosu. I gumeluluye kinalamten natibu debi seriosamiente u ma-atan haf' gaige gi maputa' chalan gi ge'fena.

Sumen libianu lokue' mayute' gi un' banda pinetsigen adelantun natibu piot 'nai taigue siñiente yan fitme na kinimite para uma-esgaihon mona gi un' sumen barañka na chalan. Huñgan, siña ta pañgon i tautau-ta gi asuntun niha, lau kau u fañaunau fitme gi kareran satbasion tinatetta siha na famaguon?

Mauleg in' diskute este i dos chalan gi fina' mirienda yan dinaña' familia. Haf' disision-ta dispues u dinitetmina linala' famaguon-ta guine gi O'Perlas Iya Pasifiku. Entre ta chogue pa'gu haf' sinsiyu dinisehata 'sino man-a'afaisen hit dispues mañgge "I Chalan Iya Hame".

Ideu: I puntun este na attikulu ideun areglon natibu gi ha fafana' na asuntu siha. Kuestion: Manu para ta embrasa 'sino abiba gi mapta' chalan: haf' sustansia-ta ni ma-añkla gi kuttura yan tradision pat i modetnu 'nai ta sotta talin riku na tinatetta? Hita ha' solu siña dumisidi este na asuntu.

Sahyan: I gumeluluye inetnon natibu i primera sahyan gi kinalamten inetnon pot adelanton natibu. Gi katkuet disision i para ta abiba kuttura yan tradision tanu' gai motmurasion. Debi u inklusu pinilakes ideu siha ni siña prumebeniye satbasion natibu gi maseha ñgai'an na tiempu.

Achon Natibu: I mangaige, siha man-ma-entrega ni achon man-antigu na mañainata para u esgaihon mona i tropa 'sino inetnon natibu gi halom pagyu, linau, yan katma.

Dañkulu yan makat na obligasion gaige gi kanai miyu. Lau seguruyu' na gi hilu' pinansensia yan yine'ase' gi prohimuta, siempre tafatoigue ayu na puntan hogsu' i talili'e hulu' ginen kañada.

Kinilili' si Kilili'

I delegadon Marianas as Gregorio C. Sablan (Kilili') ha sapopotta para umana' fan sudadanu 13-mit (13,000) na tautau hiyuñg (lamayot patte Tagalu) gi un' ginagau aktu.

Hu apunta este huyuñg yan haf' sustansiaña kontra mañeluta Refalauwasch (Karolinas). Kontodu i chumochoneg direchun natibu mampos man-silensiu gi este na patte. Esta namatman i ni unu sumuhun kalañke'ña gi asuntu 'nai pronto debi u fan adiñgan.

I puntu: Gigon mana' fan sudadanu i 13-mit na tautau hiyuñg ensegidas minoria i Karolinas guine lau natibun este siha na islas. Estague' puntun i asuntu gi posision Kilili' ni kulan kinilili' ya malefa haye ha represesenta.

I lai US Immigration klaru na famaguon tautau hiyuñg debi u bira siha yan mañainan niha 'an monhayan kontratan cho'chu'. Ti propiu i para u fan lailai man-esuette taimanu i ha propopone si Kilili'.

Lastima i inañgoghu ya pot posisioña para u destrosia ha'anen mañeluta. Kau tinahoñg ha' na mampos dikiki' numeron niha guine? Haf' motibu si Kilili' na para u fuñot mas papa' ha'anen niha? Mañgge sensian sinatton gi tautau ni pumega hau guenau na puesto? Kau todu ennau tai baliña i fiet tumatiye hau gi tiempon eleksion?

Finu' i kuentus, "Chamu estototba enemigumu gi kareran para u destrosian maisague'". Cha'mu lilihan sa' ti bai'n fan man-estotba. Siempre u tunog disposision ginen hilu' sa' ennau na puesto ginen hilu' mage.

Silensiun Chatagmag

'An hagacha'yu' katma yan silensiu i pueñge ni esta titiñgtiñg `an chatagmag, señat na guaha ti mauleg mamamaila' kontra i linahyan. Hu huchom matahu ya sigeyu' manayuyot na puede ti seriosu na destrosiu para u fatoigue hit. Esta na'mañau i tiñgtiñg silensiun tatalu' pueñge.

Dispues umanog haf' mamamaila'. Era i ma-utot pagamienton man-ritirau 25 pot sientu. Lamegai para una' fan abarambau linala' niha nu este na disision. Kontodu apas guma' famiia, kareta, kandet yan hanom, apas hinemlu' yan amot. Trabiha ti humahalom para mahatsan kandet ta'lu na mes.

Gi katkuet manera, megai na familia para u fuñut ya una' fan mamadese este na disision desde pa'gu na mes para mona. Kase guiya este ayu na señat i esta titiñgtiñg gi silensiun pueñge.

Bos ginen lahen isla

Dispues de magradua i lahihu ginen University of Texas, El Paso, 'nai ha major journalism yan minor gi philosophy, umadiñgan ham haf' na in' ayeg offisiun mañgge' kumu bokasion.

Kase ansianu lumi'e haf' ha embrarasa offisiun mañgge'. Dispues ilegña na sumen presisu i "bos" natibu gi maseha manu na komunida gi tanu'. Siempre un' dia u birague' tatte lau gi pa'gu ma-apunta "editor-in-chief" gi un' magayin (magazine) giya El Paso.

I puntoghu: presisu na bai' ekspressia sentimentun tautau isla. Hu tuñgu' haf' tinateghu ya fitme inatanhu mona gi todu kinalamtenta.

GOP leaders more like morticians planning their own funeral

By BOB RAY SANDERS
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Bob Ray Sanders is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. Readers may write to him at: 400 W. 7th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, or via email at bobray@star-telegram.com.*

The Republican leaders in Washington would be laughable if they weren't so pathetically inept, self-serving, sinister and harmful to this country.

Their showdown over the shutdown of the government, in the name of saving the nation from the evil Affordable Care Act, has been an exercise in macabre theatrics. And they are orchestrating even more drama by threatening to hold Obamacare and the nation's economy hostage in the impending fight to raise the debt limit, which, if they don't, is sure to throw the country into recession.

As I watched them during the waning days of September bicker among themselves and then finally settle on a strategy to disrupt the government, they appeared to be a strange collection of characters planning a wake for a dying patient, namely healthcare. But in this case, instead of killing Obamacare, they killed a continuing resolution that would have kept all of government operating for a while.

Every time House Speaker John Boehner and Co. approached a podium to announce some other challenge or revised proposal to chip away at healthcare, they looked like a group of funeral directors about to present a body for public viewing.

No offense to funeral directors, as some of my best friends are undertakers. Really.

But more than once I had the thought that these political morticians were turning the nation's Capitol into a funeral parlor or mausoleum. Every time I tried to get that image out of my head, the group would reappear, feigning disappointment and despair with their long, mournful faces.

The sophomoric stunt they pulled the day the government shut down was truly sad. The House appointed Majority Leader Eric Cantor, Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan and six others as its conferees for a conference committee to meet with Senate Democrats, who already had said that idea was a nonstarter. There would be no conference committee and they knew it.

The eight Republicans did create their photo op by sitting together on one side of a long table with empty chairs on the other side.

Their point was that the arrogant, noncompromising Democrats refused to negotiate, so they should get the blame for the government paralysis.

Dressed in their white shirts and ties, this time these "leaders" looked more like a set of pallbearers preparing to escort a coffin to a waiting hearse.

Another group of Republican lawmakers who have medical backgrounds appeared at a news conference wearing white lab coats—one complete with a stethoscope around his neck, a la TV doctor—to denounce Obamacare.

It was just one more ridiculous scene coming out of Washington during a very bizarre week.

As the GOP leaders postured, pointed fingers and continued to hold the nation hostage, they didn't realize it was they who were the hostages, held captive by the right-wing, Tea Party zealots who made it known before they ever got to Washington that they were willing to shut down the government to get their way.

Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas and his merry band of revolutionaries had become the real leaders of the Republican Party and quickly proceeded to lead their confused followers over a cliff.

While they preached about the dangers of Obamacare and why Americans should fear this government health plan, what they really feared was that once the program was in effect, people would like it and Republicans would never be able to get rid of it.

So they continued a fight they couldn't possibly win.

I kept wondering why someone in the party would not adhere to the old adage, "When you're in a hole, stop digging."

But then I realized that these funereal politicians were digging their own graves.

Fiery rhetoric inflames climate debate

By CATHY YOUNG
Newsday

Cathy Young is a regular contributor to Reason *magazine and the website RealClearPolitics. This was written for* Newsday.

The new report from the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, stating that there is a 95 percent probability that human impact is the main cause of rising temperatures, has been hailed by supporters as the death blow to global-warming denial.

Unsurprisingly, skeptics remain undead, dismissing the report as politically motivated groupthink. Is this about settled science versus ideology and greed-driven obfuscation, as the editors of Popular Science magazine suggested last week when they shut down Web comments to avoid what they regard as crude attacks on scientific knowledge? Or are climate-change "true believers" trying to suppress disagreement?

My view is that human-generated warming is almost certainly real, but there remains plenty of debate on its extent, specific details and preferred solution. But my opinion, like virtually any other layperson's, can hardly be called fully informed.

Therein lies the rub. The science of climate change and its causes is far too complex to understand without specialized training. That means the vast majority of people who voice opinions on the subject, whether professional pundits or lowly blog commenters, base those opinions at least in part on their political and ideological sympathies.

Skeptics are routinely accused of being either corporate shills or dupes of the free-market faith. (Disclosure: While I am affiliated with Reason magazine, which is partly funded by organizations accused of promoting "denialism," I've never faced pressure to follow a party line.) But is everyone on the side of "settled science" disinterested? U.N. officials have an implicit interest in promoting more regulation that empowers a global bureaucracy. Many others approach environmentalism as a quasi-religious crusade; consider Al Gore's 1992 book, "Earth in the Balance," with its rhetoric about earth-centered spirituality and its lament about our lost "connectedness to the rest of nature."

A few years ago, University of California at Los Angeles public policy professor Mark Kleiman, a self-identified liberal, acknowledged in a blog post that those who "dislike a social system based on high and growing consumption" and favor state regulation of markets and stronger international institutions have a powerful motive to embrace global warming as absolute truth.

While sympathetic to environmentalist causes, Kleiman noted that environmentalists often show "eagerness to believe the worst" as well an aversion to remedies that involve scientific and technological solutions—such as nuclear power—rather than drastic regulations and curbs on consumption. While Kleiman later stressed that he did not see both sides as equal offenders, his criticisms still stand.

There's no doubt that environmental scientists have been targets of unfair attacks from the right. So-called ClimateGate—the 2009 release of hacked emails from the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia—was hardly the proof of malfeasance it was made it out to be. (While critics jumped on one scientist's mention of a "trick" to "hide the decline" in temperatures in a particular period, the reference was not to hidden data-fudging, but to an openly used adjustment technique.) But legitimate scientists who believe there remains much uncertainty about the causes and scope of climate change—such as Judith Curry, chair of the School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the Georgia Institute of Technology, who has criticized the UN report as biased and stuck in "paradigm paralysis"—have had their integrity unfairly questioned as well.

Much "denialism" may be rooted in scientific ignorance. Yet, as long as climate science does not distance itself from ideological zealotry and politically one-sided prescriptions, its authority will remain open to debate.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼78°	▲85° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼76°

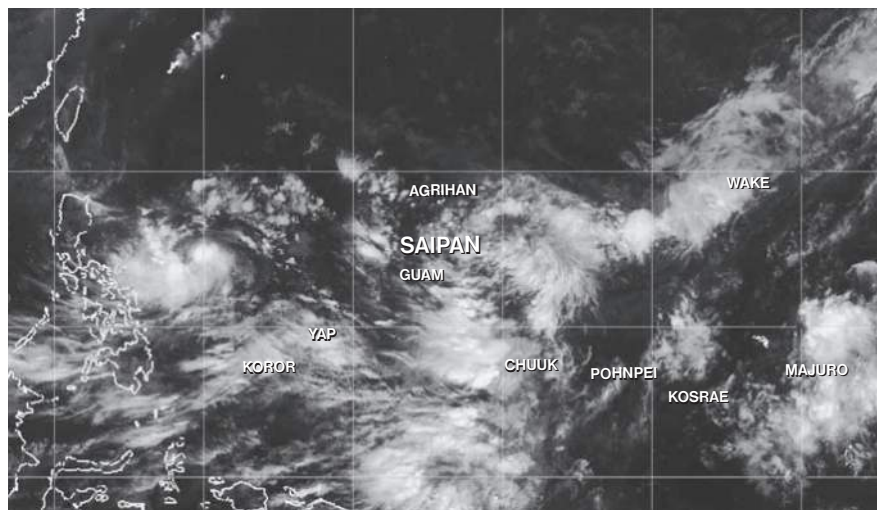
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲88	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲61	▼58
Beijing	Windy	▲72	▼51
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲88	▼78
Honolulu	Showers	▲85	▼73
London	Windy	▲54	▼49
Los Angeles	Showers	▲64	▼52
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
Melbourne	Showers	▲62	▼46
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼73
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼54
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼72
Paris	Showers	▲52	▼45
Pusan	Showers	▲78	▼68
Rome	Showers	▲69	▼61
Salem	Sunny	▲63	▼44
San Francisco	Sunny	▲67	▼55
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲80	▼66
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼69
Washington, DC	Showers	▲66	▼57

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression 24W is centered 585 miles north-northwest of Koror at 14N130Emoving west at 9 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present near the center west of a line from 16N132E to 12N132E. Similar conditions are found farther north of the center within 100 miles of a line from 18N130E to 17N138E. For more information on Tropical Depression 24W, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A tropical disturbance is centered east of Saipan at 15N148E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen just east of the Marianas between 12N and 18N from 146E to 156E. Southwest to west monsoon flow is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across western Micronesia within 150 miles of a line from 8N130E to 9N136E to 9N142E and between the equator and 11N from 142E to 153E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across the Marshall Islands within 275 miles of a line from 1N169E to 11N178E. A surface trough stretches northeastward from the disturbance east of Saipan at 15N148E to north of Wake Island at 24N168E. An upper-level trough curves southwest through 25N166E to 20N156E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present west of Wake Island between 16N and 22N from 159E to 166E and north of a line from 23N165E to 23N175E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:11 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
1:12 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
6:43 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
11:36 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:08 AM	6:00 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	5:59 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	5:59 PM
Sunday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Monday	6:08 AM	5:57 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:48 AM	10:30 PM
Friday	11:46 AM	11:30 PM
Saturday	12:41 PM	
Sunday	1:32 PM	12:30 AM
Monday	2:21 PM	1:28 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Obama to nameYellen as Bernanke successor

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama will nominate Federal Reserve vice chair Janet Yellen to succeed Ben Bernanke as chairman of the nation's central bank, the White House said Tuesday. Yellen would be the first woman to head the powerful Fed, taking over at a pivotal time for the economy and the banking industry.

Both Yellen and Bernanke are scheduled to appear with Obama at the White House on Wednesday for a formal announcement.

Bernanke will serve until his term ends Jan. 31, completing a remarkable eight-year tenure in which he helped pull the U.S. economy out of the worst financial crisis and recession since the 1930's.

Under Bernanke's leadership, the Fed created extraordinary programs after the financial crisis erupted in 2008 that are credited with helping save the U.S. banking system. The Fed lent money to banks after credit markets froze, cut its key short-term interest rate to near zero and bought trillions in bonds to lower long-term borrowing rates.

Yellen, 67, emerged as the leading candidate after Lawrence Summers, a former Treasury secretary whom Obama was thought to favor, withdrew from consideration last month in the face of rising opposition.

Yellen

A close ally of the chairman, she has been a key architect of the Fed's efforts under Bernanke to keep interest rates near record lows to support the economy, and she would likely continue steering Fed policy in the same direction as Bernanke.

The White House announcement comes in the midst of a confrontation between Obama and congressional Republicans, particularly those in the House, over the partial government shutdown and the looming breach of the nation's $16.7 trillion borrowing limit. Obama has been harshly critical of Republicans for demanding either changes in health care or spending policies in exchange for paying for government operations and raising the debt ceiling.

White House aides, however, said Obama was not likely to use Yellen's nomination announcement for partisan remarks on the shutdown and debt limit.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, said that the administration probably decided to go ahead with the announcement to send a signal of policy stability to financial markets, where investors are growing increasingly nervous over the partial shutdown and what they perceive as the much bigger threat of a default on Treasury debt if Congress does not raise the borrowing limit.

"Markets are very unsettled and they are likely to become even more unsettled in coming days," Zandi said. "Providing some clarity around who will be the next Fed chairman should help at least at the margin."

As vice chair since 2010, Yellen has helped manage both the Fed's traditional tool of short-term rates and the unconventional programs it launched to help sustain the economy after the financial crisis erupted in 2008. These include the Fed's monthly bond purchases and its guidance to investors about the likely direction of rates.

Sen. Tim Johnson, D-S.D., who heads the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, which must approve Yellen's nomination, said he will work with the panel's members to advance her confirmation quickly.

"She has a depth of experience that is second to none, and I have no doubt she will be an excellent Federal Reserve chairman," Johnson said in a statement.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., a committee member, called her "an excellent choice" and predicted she would be confirmed by a wide margin.

Obama's choice of Yellen coincides with a key turning point for the Fed. Within the next several months, the Fed is expected to start slowing the pace of its Treasury and mortgage bond purchases if the economy strengthens. The Fed's purchases have been intended to keep loan rates low to encourage borrowing and spending.

While economists saw Obama's choice of Yellen as a strong signal of continuity at the Fed, analysts said the difficult job of unwinding all of the Fed's support without causing major financial market upheavals would fall to Yellen.

"Yellen is not going to rock the boat in terms of her approach to monetary policy," said David Jones, chief economist at DMJ Advisors and the author of several books on the Fed. "But it will be her challenge to reverse this prolonged and unprecedented period of monetary ease."

Yet even after the Fed scales back its bond buying, its policies will remain geared toward keeping borrowing rates low to try to accelerate growth and lower unemployment. The unemployment rate is a still-high 7.3 percent. Few expect the Fed to start raising the short-term rate it controls before 2015 at the earliest.

$1.9M diamond deal on Neiman Marcus 87th Christmas catalog

AP

Actor Brady White portrays Santa Claus as he looks at a 25-carat rough Forevermark diamond offered in the Neiman Marcus Christmas Book Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013, in Dallas.

DALLAS (AP)—Need that one-of-a-kind stocking stuffer and have $1.9 million burning a hole in your pocket? Design your own diamond ring and travel to Africa to see where the stone came from.

Love the outdoors but think you'd love it even more while watching the Outdoor Channel? How about an outdoor entertainment system replete with a 201-inch television that rises out of the ground? It can be yours for $1.5 million (plus shipping and handling).

These are among the unique offerings for sale in the 87th edition of the Neiman Marcus Christmas Book, which was unveiled Tuesday in Dallas, where the retailer is based. Almost 40 percent of the more than 500 items for sale in the book cost less than $250 (cheapest: $12 mug), but it's the "fantasy gifts" that get everyone's attention, such as the airplanes and camels the company has offered in the past. Eight such items are for sale this year.

"The world has become so much smaller than it used to be that the challenge of finding things that are new and interesting becomes harder and harder every year," Neiman Marcus spokeswoman Ginger Reeder said.

At $1.85 million, the "diamond experience" is this year's most expensive fantasy gift. For that sum, the buyer gets a 25-carat rough diamond from which to make a personalized ring with the help of jewelry designer Maria Canale. The package includes a trip to De Beers' headquarters in London and to Africa to trace the stone's origins.

For the falconry enthusiast in your life, consider a $150,000-package that includes everything he or she would need for a leisurely afternoon hunting with hawks. Also included are a gold-plated perch, custom-made bird hoods and a handmade backgammon board (for downtime).

Design enthusiasts, drool at the thought of spending the night at architect Philip Johnson's Glass House, in Connecticut. An overnight stay—the first for sale—runs $30,000. "It's really a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to live in a masterpiece," said Henry Urbach, director of the Glass House.

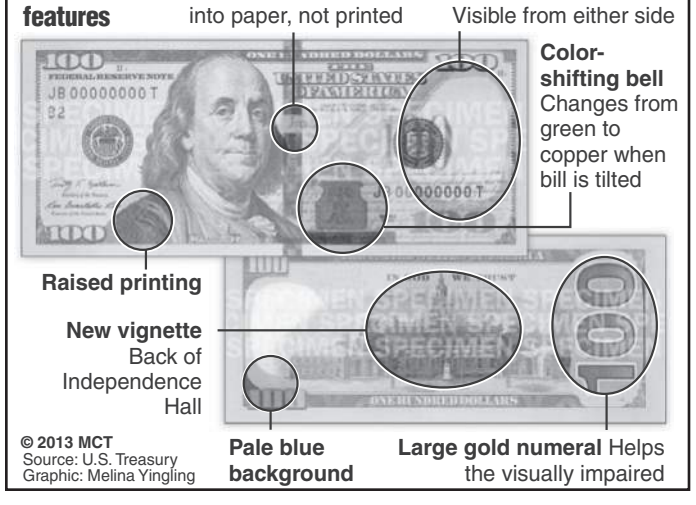
Car collectors, wow friends and enemies alike by rolling up to your next company picnic in one of 10 special-edition 2014 Aston Martin Vanquish Volantes. The sports cars, which cost $344,500, are handmade in England and come in an exclusive shade of blue.

"The cars sell out every year, and always sell out in a record amount time," Reeder said.

It can be hit-or-miss with other items, Reeder said. For example, besides last year's car, the only other item to sell was a walk-on role in Broadway's "Annie: The Musical" (at $30,000, enough to make even "Daddy" Warbucks a bit envious). Among the other fantasy items that sold in recent years were a $20,000 custom suit of armor and a $6.7 million helicopter, she said.

Security facelift

Redesigned to help thwart counterfeiters, the new $100 bills, first revealed in 2010 and expected to be in circulation in 2011, are finally available to the public.


New features
Blue ribbon Woven into paper, not printed
Portrait watermark Visible from either side
Color-shifting bell Changes from green to copper when bill is tilted
Raised printing
New vignette Back of Independence Hall
Pale blue background
Large gold numeral Helps the visually impaired

© 2013 MCT
Source: U.S. Treasury
Graphic: Melina Yingling

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
14,776.53	1,655.45	3,694.83
159.71	20.67	75.54
-1.07%	-1.23%	-2.00%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0593	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7541	Philippine Peso	43.2
British Pound	0.6228	Indian Rupee	61.78	Singapore Dollar	1.2516
Canadian Dollar	1.0376	Indonesian Rupiah	11540	South Korean Won	1076.86
Chinese Yuan	6.1192	Japanese Yen	97.455	Swiss Franc	0.9071
Euro	0.7378	Malaysian Ringgit	3.2027	Taiwan Dollar	29.417
		New Zealand Dollar	1.2062	Thailand Baht	31.42

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Proscan 32 Inch LED TV **$389.95**

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Little Ones Diapers **$26.95**

Essential Home Extra Firm Pillow **$7.95**

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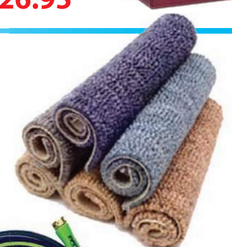

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Nation

Obama, Boehner trade barbs, hints of compromise

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner offered hints of possible compromise but also traded heated rhetoric Tuesday, a frustratingly inconclusive combination that left the eight-day partial government shutdown firmly in place and the threat of an unprecedented national default drawing closer.

"There's a crack there," Boehner said of the impasse near the end of a day of maneuvering at the White House and the Capitol. Yet the Ohio Republican added that it was not enough to warrant optimism.

Stocks fell significantly—the Dow Jones average by 159 points—as political gridlock endured. And, in the latest in a string of dire warnings, the International Monetary Fund said failure to raise America's debt limit could lead to default and disrupt worldwide financial markets, raise interest rates and push the U.S economy back into recession.

Republicans "don't get to demand ransom in exchange for doing their jobs," Obama said at the White House. "They don't also get to say, you know, unless you give me what the voters rejected in the last election, I'm going to cause a recession."

Even the deaths of U.S. servicemen over the weekend in Afghanistan were grist for the politicians. The Pentagon said that because of the partial shutdown it was unable to pay the customary death benefits to the survivors.

Boehner said Congress had passed and Obama signed legislation last week permitting the payments, adding it was "disgraceful" for the administration to interpret the measure otherwise. He said the House would clarify the issue with a new bill on Wednesday.

In Congress, a plan by Senate Democrats to raise the debt limit by $1 trillion to stave off a possible default drew little evidence of support from Republicans.

And a proposal by Republicans to create a working group of 20 lawmakers to tackle deficit issues, approved 224-197 by the House, drew a veto threat from the White House, the latest in a string of them as the administration insists the GOP reopen the government and avert default before any negotiations on deficit reduction or the three-year-old health care law can take place.

On a day in which both Obama and Boehner appeared on live television, both men appeared to be giving ground yet yielding little if anything of substance.

At midmorning, Boehner and other Republicans seemed to soften their demands.

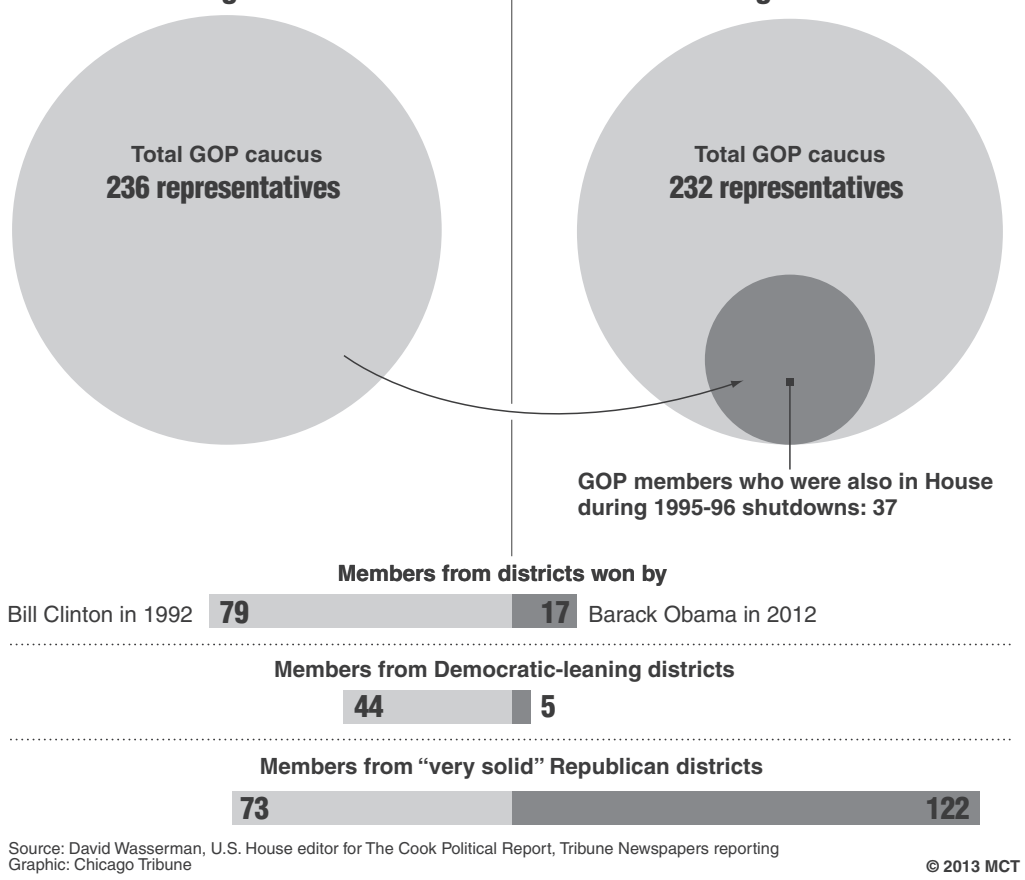
"I suspect we can work out a mechanism to raise the debt ceiling while a negotiation is underway," said Rep. Tom Cole, an Oklahoma Republican who is close to Boehner.

The speaker, who had previously insisted on specific changes in the health care law as the price for preventing the shutdown, told reporters, "I want to have a conversation (with Obama and Democrats.) I'm not drawing any lines in the sand. It's time for us to just sit down and resolve our differences."

Asked if he was willing to raise the debt ceiling and fund the government for a short period, the Ohio Republican sidestepped. "I'm not going to get into a whole lot of speculation," he said.

Deeper divisions in Congress

Analysis by the nonpartisan Cook Political Report shows that the makeup of the Republican caucus in the House is significantly different than the party's caucus during the last two government shutdowns in 1995 and 1996. More Congressional districts are now either solidly Republican or solidly Democratic, due in large part to new district boundaries drawn after the 2010 census. That has left many representatives little incentive to reach compromises with members of the other party, creating what some political scientists have said is the most polarized Congress since the Civil War.



Source: David Wasserman, U.S. House editor for The Cook Political Report, Tribune Newspapers reporting
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

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Denver parents accused of keeping 4 boys in filth

DENVER (AP)—A Denver couple accused of keeping four malnourished young children in a filthy apartment pleaded guilty to neglecting three other children under strikingly similar conditions in 2006, court records show.

The parents, Wayne Sperling and Lorinda Bailey, appeared in court Tuesday on felony child-abuse charges. Authorities say their four boys, ages 2 to 6, lived in a rank-smelling apartment littered with cat feces, flies and urine. The boys could not speak and only grunted, authorities said.

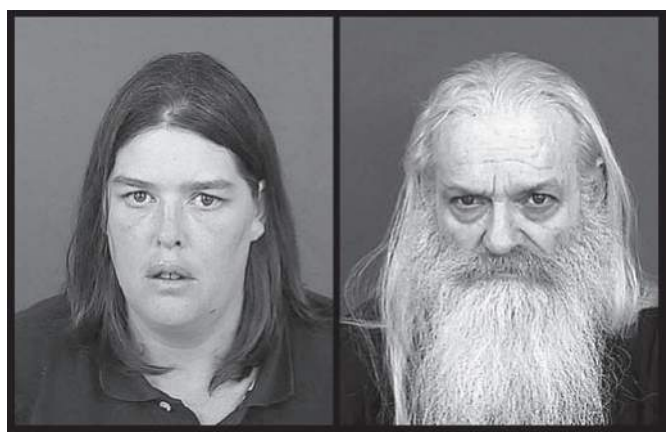
Police found similar conditions at the couple's apartment in 2006, when they had three other children, records released Tuesday show.

All seven kids were placed with a child services agency. No other details were available on their current status or whereabouts.

Bailey, 35, is free on bond. She declined to comment after leaving court Tuesday.

Sperling, 66, is still in custody and appeared in court with his long white hair in a ponytail and wearing a long, flowing beard. His attorney made no public statement.

Neighbors said they repeatedly complained to authorities about the boys' care but nothing happened.



AP

This photo combo of photos provided by the Office of the Denver District Attorney's Office shows Lorinda Bailey, left, and Wayne Sperling.

The state Department of Human Services is reviewing the handling of the case because it meets "egregious" criteria, agency spokeswoman Liz McDonough said.

McDonough said she could not comment on specifics of the review but said it would include case notes and whether procedures were followed.

Police said the children found in 2006 were dirty, wore unwashed clothing and had not been fed for several hours. The oldest, age 4 at the time, spoke few words and mostly grunted and pointed to communicate, the records show.

Passers-by called police in the 2006 case to say a 2-year-old and a 4-year-old were playing in the street. Officers said they found rotten food, trash and insects in the apartment.

Shortly after the officers responded, Sperling and Bailey arrived at the home with their third child, then 3 months old, the records show.

The parents pleaded guilty to misdemeanor child-abuse charges in that case and were ordered to serve probation and take parenting classes.

The three children in that case had different dates of birth than the four boys in the current case, the records show. The records identify Sperling and Bailey as the parents of all seven.

The latest charges came after an investigation that began Sept. 29, when Bailey took her youngest son to St. Joseph's Children's Hospital for a cut on his forehead that she said happened after a fall.

Record breaker Nyad attempts 48-hour swim in NYC

AP

Eleven-time Olympic medalist Ryan Lochte concludes his swim with Diana Nyad during her 48-hour continuous "Swim for Relief" to support Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013, in New York's Herald Square.

NEW YORK (AP)—The 64-year-old woman who swam from Cuba to Florida is attempting to swim in a pool in midtown Manhattan for 48 straight hours to benefit victims of Superstorm Sandy.

Wearing a pink swim cap, Diana Nyad dove into the 40-yard pool set up in Herald Square and began doing laps shortly before 9 a.m. Tuesday. Her aim is to raise money for people still struggling a year after Sandy.

"It's going to be so magical to be out there," she said in an interview Monday with The Associated Press. "It's going to be a spectacle right in the middle of New York City."

By 11 p.m. Tuesday, Nyad had been in the pool a little over 14 hours and had raised over $52,600, according to a website tracking her progress.

Last month, the native New Yorker became the first person to have swum from Havana to Key West, Fla., without a shark cage.

She told the AP that one of her Manhattan swimming companions will be a dog named Roscoe that survived Sandy floodwaters. Also expected to join her are Olympic gold medalist Ryan Lochte and Richard Simmons, dressed in a suit graced with about 300 Swarovski crystals.

Nyad said she may break otherwise strict athletic rules by hugging some of the humans joining her in the two-lane pool. "I'm going to feel the solidarity. And every penny is going to go right to the victims."

Asia

China to showcase clout at APEC

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei (AP)—Southeast Asian leaders opened an annual summit with Asia-Pacific counterparts on Wednesday, a gathering where China was expected to take advantage of the absence of the U.S. president to showcase its rising global clout and promote trade yet still talk tough on regional territorial disputes.

Leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations were to first meet among themselves in Brunei before the leaders of eight other countries—including China, Japan, South Korea and India—joined them for two days of closed-door talks, pageantry and photo-ops in this tiny oil-rich kingdom.

President Barack Obama was forced to cancel a four-nation swing through Southeast Asia, including attendance at the ASEAN meeting and an earlier summit in Bali, Indonesia, to grapple with a budget deadlock that sparked a partial shutdown of the U.S. government. Secretary of State John Kerry is taking his place.

That has given Chinese Premier Li Keqiang a chance to take the spotlight.

Although its annual meeting is often derided for being more talk than action, ASEAN and its 10 nations are a prized catch, both politically and economically, in the rivalry between a rising China and a United States that has been trying to reassert its dominance in the region of more than half a billion people. ASEAN wants to transform itself by the end of 2015 into an E.U.-like community in two years with a freer flow of goods, services and investments, though there are doubts as to whether that timeframe is feasible.

China plans to establish an Asian investment bank to help finance infrastructure projects in the region, Li said in an interview published by the Borneo Bulletin, a newspaper in Brunei.

While trade is high in the agenda in Brunei, long-seething rifts over contested territories in the busy South China Sea are once again sparking friction.

The bloc has been struggling to manage the disputes, which many fear could ignite Asia's next major armed conflict. China and Taiwan claim the resource-rich waters and its chains of islands, islets and reefs virtually in its entirety while ASEAN members Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam lay claim to some parts.

American officials say the peaceful resolution of the conflict and freedom of navigation in the contested waters were in the U.S. national interest, but China has warned them to stay out of what should purely be an Asian dispute.

Vietnam and the Philippines have had recent skirmishes with Chinese maritime ships in the sea, igniting fresh tensions.

Chinese and Philippine diplomats squabbled Tuesday over the wording of a paragraph on the territorial rifts in a joint statement to be issued by Chinese and ASEAN leaders after they meet on Wednesday, two Filipino diplomats told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters.

When asked by Southeast Asian journalists, who sent in their questions in writing, about fears that China might seek hegemony in the region with its growing military might, Li portrayed his country as a gentle giant which has had no track record of expansionism in Asia unlike Western powers.

But while China is firmly committed to a peaceful rise, Li said it "is unshakable in its resolve to uphold national sovereignty and territorial integrity."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bangladesh garment factory fire kills 10 people

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—A fire at a garment factory outside Bangladesh's capital killed 10 people and others were injured trying to escape, officials said Wednesday. Those killed in the fire at the Aswad garment factory in Gazipur included the general manager, Rashiduzzaman Mandal, said fire official Zafar Ahmed. He said the fire was doused early Wednesday after firefighters labored 10 hours to bring it under control. Factory director Emdad Hossain said 170 workers were inside the factory when the fire started and most were able to escape. Hossain said he suffered slight injuries himself.

SKorea spy agency says NKorea restarts reactor

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's spy agency told lawmakers Tuesday that North Korea has restarted a plutonium reactor at its main nuclear facility, according to two parliamentary members who attended the closed-door briefing session. North Korea said in April it would restart the reactor after tensions ran high following its third nuclear test in February, but it has not confirmed that it has done so. Recent satellite photos have shown signs that the reactor may be operating. The National Intelligence Service told a parliamentary committee meeting Tuesday that North Korea restarted the five-megawatt reactor at its Nyongbyon complex in August but did not say how obtained the information, according to the office of lawmaker Jung Chung-rae.

Chinese police fire at Tibetan protesters

BEIJING (AP)—An overseas Tibetan rights group said Tuesday that about 60 people were injured when Chinese security forces fired into a crowd of Tibetan residents who were demanding the release of a fellow villager detained for protesting orders to display the national flag. Chinese police also fired tear gas at those protesting Sunday in Biru county in the Tibet Autonomous Region, London-based Free Tibet said. U.S.-backed broadcaster Radio Free Asia also reported the incident and said dozens were injured, citing unidentified local and exiled Tibetan sources. The reports could not be independently confirmed, and local Communist Party and government officials either could not be reached by phone or hung up shortly after answering.

Australian diver survives his second shark attack

SYDNEY (AP)—A diver bitten by a shark off Australia's southwest coast was recovering in a hospital on Wednesday after surviving his second shark attack in nine years. Greg Pickering, 55, was diving for abalone off an area called Poison Creek near the Western Australia city of Esperance on Tuesday when he was attacked by what officials suspect was a great white. He underwent surgery and was in stable condition Wednesday, Royal Perth Hospital spokesman Matt Avery said. It was the second time Pickering found himself in the jaws of a shark. In 2004, he was bitten on the leg while spearfishing near Cervantes, north of the Western Australia capital, Perth.

Vietnam seizes 2 tons of elephant tusks

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—State media say authorities in Vietnam have seized nearly 2 tons of elephant tusks illegally imported from Malaysia. The Tuoi Tre newspaper said Wednesday that customs officials in the northern port city of Hai Phong discovered the tusks last week in a container shipped from Malaysia that had been declared as sea shells that were transiting to China. In 2009, authorities in Hai Phong confiscated nearly 7 tons of ivory smuggled from Tanzania in the country's biggest such seizure. The tusks were to be used for jewelry and home decorations.

World

Rebels attack army base in Syria

MAARET AL-NUMAN, Syria (AP)—Rebel fighters dressed in camouflage uniforms carefully loaded mortar rounds, then with a loud boom and a burst of smoke the shells zipped off in the direction of a nearby government army base.

"We are coming to get you, shabiha!" a man surrounded by rebel fighters shouted in an apparent reference to President Bashar Assad, using the term the opposition uses to refer to pro-government gunmen.

The shelling Tuesday, the latest salvo in an assault on the military facility, was part of a broader rebel effort to capture the remaining regime outposts in the largely opposition-held countryside of northern Syria.

Dramatic footage shot by The Associated Press showed a group of 45 young rebel fighters launching an attack on the military base, and others deploying improvised cannons and makeshift mortars. Some were also seen firing anti-aircraft weapons at attacking government helicopters.

The rebels captured the strategic city of Maaret al-Numan a year ago after systematically seizing the army's outposts in the area, a major supply route linking the capital, Damascus, with the contested Idlib region and Syria's largest city, Aleppo.

But despite repeated assaults on the nearby military installation of Hamidiyeh, in the Wadi Deif area east of the city, the rebel fighters have failed to break through the heavily fortified base.

The latest operation began Monday, and the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said many Libyan fighters were battling on the rebel side. It said regime fighter jets twice hit opposition-held areas near the city Tuesday and the clashes caused casualties, though it gave no specifics.

At least 10 government soldiers and one rebel fighter were killed on Monday, it said.

The fight for the base is part of the ongoing, broader struggle for control of northern Syria, where the opposition controls large swathes of territory captured from Assad's troops.

2 win physics Nobel for Higgs theory

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Nearly 50 years after they came up with the theory, but little more than a year since the world's biggest atom smasher delivered the proof, Britain's Peter Higgs and Belgian colleague Francois Englert won the Nobel Prize in physics Tuesday for helping to explain how matter formed after the Big Bang.

Working independently in the 1960s, they came up with a theory for how the fundamental building blocks of the universe clumped together, gained mass and formed everything we see around us today. The theory hinged on the existence of a subatomic particle that came to be called the Higgs boson—or the "God particle."

Higgs

Englert

In one of the biggest breakthroughs in physics in decades, scientists at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, announced last year that they had finally found a Higgs boson using the $10 billion particle collider built in a 17-mile (27-kilometer) tunnel under the Swiss-French border.

In a statement issued by the University of Edinburgh, where he retired as a professor, the famously shy, 84-year-old Higgs said he hoped the prize would help people recognize "the value of blue-sky research."

Englert, 80, said the award pointed to the importance of scientific freedom and the need for scientists to be allowed to do fundamental research that doesn't have immediate practical applications.

"You don't work thinking to get the Nobel Prize," said Englert, a retired professor at the Free University of Brussels. Still, "we had the impression that we were doing something that was important, that would later on be used by other researchers."

The Nobel selection committees are notoriously cautious, often allowing decades to elapse before honoring a scientific breakthrough, and their choices are hard to predict. But this time, the prize went to people who were widely expected to get it.

Nobel Prize for physics

Peter Higgs of the U.K. and Francois Englert of Belgium *share the 2013 Nobel Prize for physics for their work on the Higgs boson theory.*

Recent recipients

2012 Serge Haroche of ***France*** and David Wineland of the ***U.S***.

2011 Saul Perlmutter and Adam Riess, **U.S.**, and Brian Schmidt, **Australia**

2010 Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov, both **Russia**

2009 Charles K. Kao, **China and U.K.,** Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith, both **U.S.**

2008 Yoichiro Nambu, **U.S.,** and Makoto Kobayashi, Toshihide Maskawa, both **Japan**

2007 Albert Fert, **France,** Peter Grunberg, **Germany**

© 2013 MCT
Source: The Nobel Foundation

Doctors: Argentine president well after surgery

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Before doctors drilled through President Cristina Fernandez's skull Tuesday to remove a blood clot pressuring her brain, her vice president sought to reassure Argentines they have no reason to be alarmed. Yet the government is facing a number of challenges, and many people are worried by the country's dominant political force being sidelined.

When Fernandez came out of surgery, her spokesman said that she was in good spirits, that doctors were satisfied with the operation, and that she was already recovering well.

Vice President Amado Boudou already had urged the country to stay upbeat. "This is nothing new, and doesn't generate any uncertainty," he said as he took charge of the government for an undetermined period.

But many Argentines have doubts: Congressional elections in less than three weeks are threatening to weaken the governing party's strength, Monday's U.S. Supreme Court rejection of an Argentine appeal makes another debt default more likely, the economy has slowed sharply, and Boudou is under investigation for corruption.

"This is no time to go on automatic pilot," economist Jorge Todesca said in a letter to his clients.

He said Fernandez has run the government like an "anarchy" characterized by spontaneous acts, short-term thinking and key decisions made in isolation. Without her daily presence, top officials could lack the political authority they need to manage the looming economic crisis, he said.

Fernandez's doctors said she suffered no complications from their removal of a blood clot from the surface of the right side of her brain. But their brief post-surgical report made no reference to how long the president would need to rest or how much Argentines could expect from her in the meantime.

Focus

AP

In this Oct. 8, 2013, photo Rick Hohensee of Washington holds a "Fire Congress" sign near the House steps on Capitol Hill in Washington. Americans adults scored below the international average on a global test in math, reading and problem-solving using technology—all skills considered critical for global competitiveness and economic strength.

American adults score **poorly** on global test

WASHINGTON (AP)—It's long been known that America's school kids haven't measured well compared with international peers. Now, there's a new twist: Adults don't either.

In math, reading and problem-solving using technology—all skills considered critical for global competitiveness and economic strength—American adults scored below the international average on a global test, according to results released Tuesday.

Adults in Japan, Canada, Australia, Finland and multiple other countries scored significantly higher than the United States in all three areas on the test. Beyond basic reading and math, respondents were tested on activities such as calculating mileage reimbursement due to a salesman, sorting email and comparing food expiration dates on grocery store tags.

Not only did Americans score poorly compared to many international competitors, the findings reinforced just how large the gap is between the nation's high- and low-skilled workers and how hard it is to move ahead when your parents haven't.

In both reading and math, for example, those with college-educated parents did better than those whose parents did not complete high school.

The study, called the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, found that it was easier on average to overcome this and other barriers to literacy overseas than in the United States.

Researchers tested about 166,000 people ages 16 to 65 in more than 20 countries and subnational regions. The test was developed and released by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which is made up of mostly industrialized member countries. The Education Department's Center for Education Statistics participated.

The findings were equally grim for many European countries—Italy and Spain, among the hardest hit by the recession and debt crisis, ranked at the bottom across generations. Unemployment is well over 25 percent in Spain and over 12 percent in Italy. Spain has drastically cut education spending, drawing student street protests.

But in the northern European countries that have fared better, the picture was brighter—and the study credits its continuing education. In Finland, Denmark, and the Netherlands, more than 60 percent of adults took part in either job training or continuing education. In Italy, by contrast, the rate was half that.

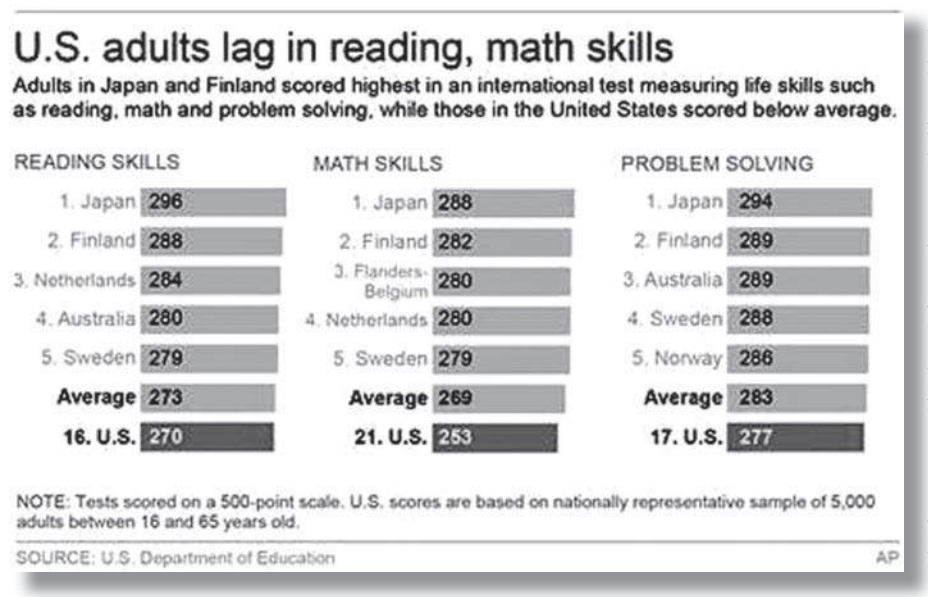
As the American economy sputters along and many people live paycheck-to-paycheck, economists say a highly-skilled workforce is key to economic recovery. The median hourly wage of workers scoring on the highest level in literacy on the test is more than 60 percent higher than for workers scoring at the lowest level, and those with low literacy skills were more than twice as likely to be unemployed.

"It's not just the kids who require more and more preparation to get access to the economy, it's more and more the adults don't have the skills to stay in it," said Anthony Carnevale, director of the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan said in a statement the nation needs to find ways to reach more adults to upgrade their skills. Otherwise, he said, "no matter how hard they work, these adults will be stuck, unable to support their families and contribute fully to our country."

Among the other findings:

■ Americans scored toward the bottom in the category of problem solving in a technology-rich environment. The top five scores in the areas were from Japan, Finland, Australia, Sweden and Norway, while the U.S. score was on par with England, Estonia, Ireland and Poland. In nearly all countries, at least 10 percent of adults lacked the most basic of computer skills such as using a mouse.


U.S. adults lag in reading, math skills
Adults in Japan and Finland scored highest in an international test measuring life skills such as reading, math and problem solving, while those in the United States scored below average.
READING SKILLS
1. Japan 296
2. Finland 288
3. Netherlands 284
4. Australia 280
5. Sweden 279
Average 273
16. U.S. 270
MATH SKILLS
1. Japan 288
2. Finland 282
3. Flanders-Belgium 280
4. Netherlands 280
5. Sweden 279
Average 269
21. U.S. 253
PROBLEM SOLVING
1. Japan 294
2. Finland 289
3. Australia 289
4. Sweden 288
5. Norway 286
Average 283
17. U.S. 277
NOTE: Tests scored on a 500-point scale. U.S. scores are based on nationally representative sample of 5,000 adults between 16 and 65 years old.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education
AP

■ Japanese and Dutch adults who were ages 25 to 34 and only completed high school easily outperformed Italian or Spanish university graduates of the same age.

■ In England, Germany, Italy, Poland, and the United States, social background has a big impact on literacy skills, meaning the children of parents with low levels of education have lower reading skills.

America's school kids have historically scored low on international assessment tests compared to other countries, which is often blamed on the diversity of the population and the high number of immigrants. Also, achievement tests have long shown that a large chunk of the U.S. student population lacks basic reading and math skills—most pronounced among low-income and minority students.

This test could suggest students leaving high school without certain basic skills aren't obtaining them later on the job or in an education program.

The United States will have a tough time catching up because money at the state and local level, a major source of education funding, has been slashed in recent years, said Jacob Kirkegaard, an economist with the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

"There is a race between man and machine here. The question here is always: Are you a worker for whom technology makes it possible to do a better job or are you a worker that the technology can replace?" he said. For those without the most basic skills, he said, the answer will be merciless and has the potential to extend into future generations. Learning is highly correlated with parents' education level.

"If you want to avoid having an underclass—a large group of people who are basically unemployable—this educational system is absolutely key," Kirkegaard said.

Dolores Perin, professor of psychology and education at Teachers College, Columbia University, said the report provides a "good basis for an argument there should be more resources to support adults with low literacy."

Adults can learn new skills at any age and there are adult-geared programs around the country, Perin said. But, she said, the challenge is ensuring the programs have quality teaching and that adults regularly attend classes.

"If you find reading and writing hard, you've been working hard all day at two jobs, you've got a young child, are you actually going to go to class? It's challenging," Perin said.

Some economists say that large skills gap in the United States could matter even more in the future. America's economic competitors like China and India are simply larger than competitors of the past like Japan, Carnevale said. Even while America's top 10 percent of students can compete globally, Carnevale said, that doesn't cut it. China and India did not participate in this assessment.

"The skills in the middle are required and we're not producing them," Carnevale said.

Respondents were selected as part of a nationally represented sample. The test was primarily taken at home using a computer, but some respondents used a printed test booklet.

Among the other findings:

■ Japan, Finland, Canada, Netherlands, Australia, Sweden, Norway, Flanders-Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, and Korea all scored significantly higher than the United States in all three areas on the test.

■ The average scores in literacy range from 250 in Italy to 296 in Japan. The U.S. average score was 270. (500 was the highest score in all three areas.) Average scores in 12 countries were higher than the average U.S. score.

■ The average scores in math range from 246 in Spain to 288 in Japan. The U.S. average score was 253, below 18 other countries.

■ The average scores on problem solving in technology-rich environments ranged from 275 in Poland to 294 in Japan. The U.S. average score was 277, below 14 other countries.

Environment

Yosemite's largest ice mass is melting fast

By LOUIS SAHAGUN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Climate change is taking a visible toll on Yosemite National Park, where the largest ice-mass in the park is in a death spiral, geologists say.

During an annual trek to the glacier deep in Yosemite's backcountry last month, Greg Stock, the park's first full-time geologist, found that Lyell Glacier had shrunk visibly since his visit last year, continuing a trend that began more than a century ago.

Lyell has dropped 62 percent of its mass and lost 120 vertical feet of ice over the last 100 years. "We give it 20 years or so of existence—then it'll vanish, leaving behind rocky debris," Stock said.

The Sierra Nevada Mountains have roughly 100 remaining glaciers, two of them in Yosemite. The shrinkage of glaciers across the Sierra is also occurring around the world. Great ice sheets are dwindling, prompting concerns about what happens next to surrounding ecological systems after perennial rivulets of melted ice disappear.

"We've looked at glaciers in California, Colorado, Wyoming, Washington and elsewhere, and they're all thinning because of warming temperatures and less precipitation," said Andrew Fountain, professor of geology and geography at Portland State University in Oregon. "This is the beginning of the end of these things."

If carbon dioxide levels continue to rise, the earth will eventually become ice-free, according to a study by Ken MacLeod, a professor of geological sciences at the University of Missouri, published in the October issue of the journal Geology.

Research by scientists at NASA, the U.S. Geological Survey and UC Davis suggest that absorption of sunlight in snow by industrial air pollution including soot, or black carbon, is also causing snow and ice to melt faster.

Yosemite's other glacier, Maclure, is also shrinking, but it remains alive and continues to creep at a rate of about an inch a day.

Lyell, however, hasn't budged. It is the second largest glacier in the Sierra Nevada and the headwater of the Tuolumne River watershed, but it no longer fits the definition of a glacier because it has ceased moving.

"Lyell Glacier is stagnant—a clear sign it's dying," Stock said. "Our research indicates it stopped moving about a decade ago."

Of particular concern is the effect on Yosemite's Tuolumne Meadows. After two years of drought, many of the streams that nourish the picturesque meadowlands have gone dry. The one exception, however, is the Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne River, which is sustained by runoff from Lyell and Maclure glaciers.

"When the glaciers are gone, there will be no steady supplies of water in that drainage," Stock said. "We don't know what the impacts of that will be on plants and animals that evolved with these ice flows."

Future research projects will attempt to use climate shifts chronicled in the widths of tree rings in nearby forests to create computer models that will show the shrinkage of Yosemite's glaciers over the last 300 years—and help predict when they will disappear entirely.

Scientists also want to know why Lyell has stopped moving when neighboring Maclure, which is half the size it was a century ago, continues to advance at the same rate it did when naturalist John Muir and his friend Galen Clark hammered wooden stakes into its icy crust in 1872 to prove that glaciers are "living" because they move and alter the landscape as they do so.

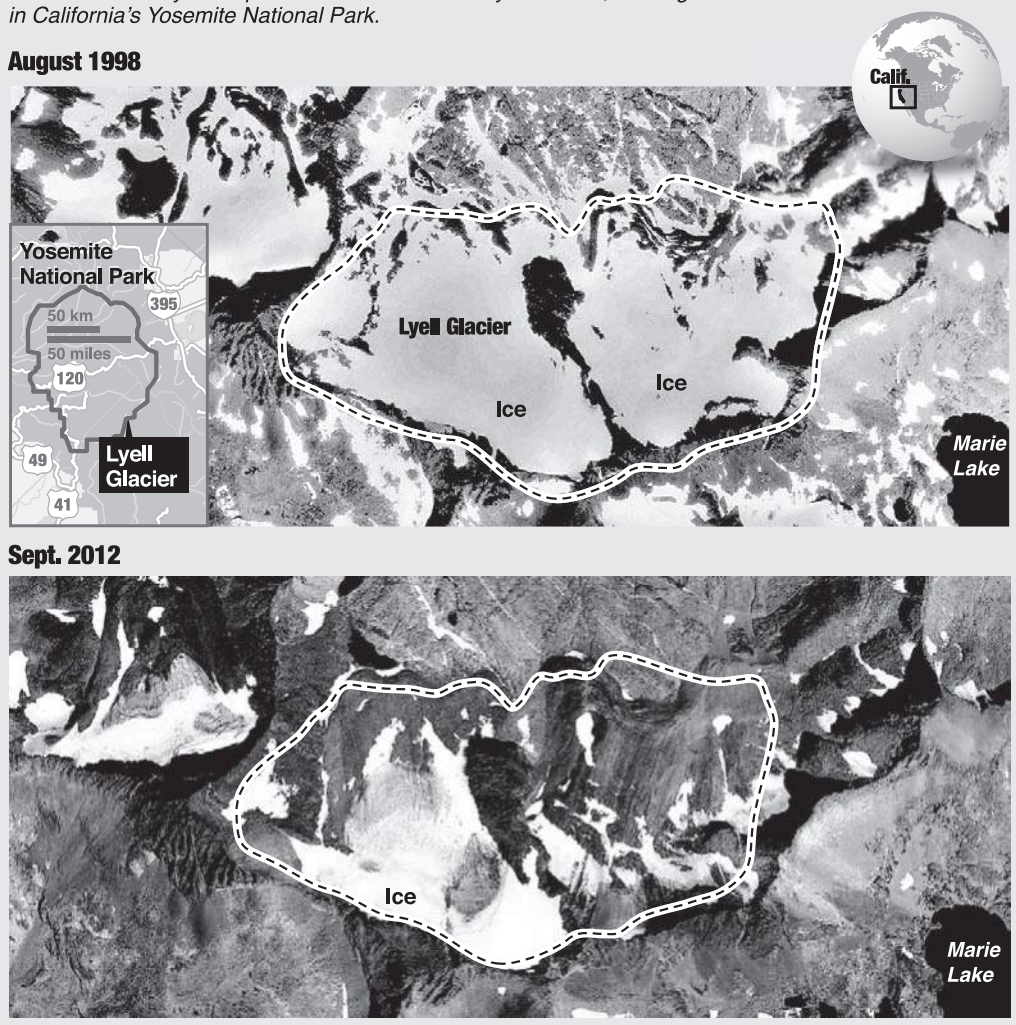
"Glaciers tend to flow like honey down a plate, or slide over meltwater beneath them," Stock said. "We suspect Lyell just isn't thick enough anymore to drive a downhill motion."

Overall, "the rate of glacier retreat has accelerated since about 2000," Stock said. "Eventually, they'll be nothing left."

That's already happened at least once in Yosemite, geologists say. Black Mountain Glacier, which Muir discovered, surveyed and declared "living" in 1871, was gone by the mid-1980s.

Melting ice

Photos taken 14 years apart show the decline of Lyell Glacier, the largest ice mass in California's Yosemite National Park.



Source: Google, Digital Globe
Graphic: Lorena Iniguez, Matt Moody, Los Angeles Times
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Map and photos of Yosemite National Park showing the decline of Lyell Glacier.

Study: Honeybees can't smell flowers well amid pollution

By MONTE MORIN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

When it comes to zeroing in on nectar-rich flowers, worker honeybees rely heavily on their expert sense of smell. But new research suggests pollution from diesel exhaust may fool the honeybee's "nose," making their search for staple flowers all the more difficult.

In a paper published recently in Scientific Reports, English scientists concluded that two components of diesel exhaust—nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide—could alter the odor of the many chemicals that combine to give a flower its signature smell.

This phenomenon, researchers said, could either hinder or prevent honeybees from reaching their target flowers, and, in the process, inhibit the pollination of the world's principal food crops.

The research comes at a time of great concern over the fate of pollinator insects. Globally, their numbers have been on the decline, and the potential consequences for humans are great.

The economic value of pollination across the planet has been estimated at more than $200 billion a year, and 70 percent of the world's food crops rely on this process, according to lead study author Robbie Girling, a chemical ecologist at the University of Southampton.

"Honeybees have a sensitive sense of smell and an exceptional ability to learn and memorize new odors, enabling them to use floral odors to help locate, identify and recognize the flowers from which they forage," wrote Girling and his colleagues.

In order to test their hypothesis, researchers synthetically reproduced the odor of bright yellow oilseed rape flowers. The scent of the actual flower is the result of eight different chemicals mingling together, and researchers used these same chemicals to reproduce the odor in the lab.

Next, they took worker honeybees that were raised at the university and "taught" them to associate the synthetic odor with nectar. They did this by restraining the bees, exposing them to the smell, and then swabbing their antenna with a sweet, nectar-like sucrose solution.

In the wild, worker honeybees will detect sweet nectar with their antenna. The bees then reflexively extend their proboscis—a long hollow tongue—and begin sucking up the liquid.

By repeatedly swabbing the captive bees' antenna with the sucrose solution and exposing them to the plant odor, they hoped to induce a Pavlovian response, whereby the bee would eventually extend its proboscis whenever it caught a whiff of the lab-made perfume.

Finally, study authors exposed the trained honeybees to the pure flower smell, as well as versions that were altered to mimic the effects of exposure to nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide.

What were the results? Researchers said flower odors that mimicked the effects of pollution were roughly half as likely to make the bees stick their tongues out than the unadulterated smell. Researchers deemed this a "significant reduction in recognition."

While study authors acknowledged that their conclusion was the result of manipulating synthetic odors, not field observations, they said the disruption of natural odors by man-made pollution could have far-reaching effects.

"In nature honeybees use a combination of visual stimuli and floral odors to locate a flower for the first time," authors wrote.

"Degradation of an odor source by pollution is likely to be more pronounced at distance from the flower, where concentrations of the odors are lower," they wrote. "This could result in greater dependence upon other senses critical for foraging behavior, such as vision, to compensate for the reduction in olfactory stimuli."

Marine species relocate in reaction to climate change

By MELISSA PANDIKA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—As climate change heats our oceans, you'd expect temperature-sensitive marine species to flee poleward to cooler waters. So why have some headed to warmer regions toward the equator?

Scientists have solved the puzzle. For the most part, these animals are relocating to cooler waters. But since the effects of climate change can vary widely across regions, sometimes those cooler regions are closer to the poles and sometimes they're closer to the equator.

In other words, marine animals are still reacting to climate change, but at a local scale. And they're doing it so reliably that you can actually measure the speed and direction of those changes by watching where animals go, according to a study published Thursday in the journal Science.

The mystery began with observations of species such as the shortbelly rockfish and torpedo ray, which live along the California coast. As Pacific waters got warmer, these creatures moved farther south, to seemingly warmer waters.

Experts struggled to explain this behavior. Some suggested that the animals were moving toward food sources or that some species had delayed responses to climate shifts, said Malin Pinsky, a marine ecologist at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

So Pinsky and his colleagues set out to determine which model best predicted the movements of marine species. They first analyzed surveys of trawler hauls from North American waters dating to 1968, which included 360 species of fish and marine invertebrates. This told them how many and what kinds of animals were in certain places, and how that changed over time. Then they ran models that earlier studies had proposed to see which one best fit the survey data.

The model that came out on top was climate velocity, the name for the idea that animals move toward their preferred water temperatures. More than 70 percent of the species migrated in the same direction the model had predicted.

Climate velocity can be thought of as which way and how fast different temperatures "move," Pinksy said. Mapped out, climate velocities look much like the temperature contours on a weather map.

The new findings indicate that marine species tend to "follow" these climate velocities. For example, the preferred water temperatures of many species on the California coast—which has cooled in recent years—have "moved" south. Sure enough, the coastal species have followed.

"You have to figure out what individual fish and other species are experiencing" to explain how they move, Pinsky said, "so we looked at climate change in a more detailed way and a finer scale than other people have."

The findings underscore the complexity of climate change, said Trevor Branch, a fisheries scientist at the University of Washington in Seattle who wasn't involved in the study.

"We can't just assume that if things are getting warmer that all fish are going to move north," Branch said.

Paying more attention to climate velocity could help ecologists understand how species might respond to future climate change.

Life & Style

Cage, Kidman receive Chinese entertainment awards

MACAU (AP)—Nicolas Cage, accepting a film award in China, says he's enjoying the warmth and enthusiasm he feels while working there on a new film.

Cage was named Best Global Actor in Motion Pictures at China's Huading Awards on Monday night. Nicole Kidman, honored as best global film actress, wore a black Prada dress while she walked the red carpet in Macau alongside Hong Kong legend and pal Jackie Chan.

Cage has been shooting "Outcast" in Hong Kong with Hayden Christensen.

"I believe in the genius loci of a place, the genie of the place is what I call it. I absorb that energy and it affects performance wherever I go," Cage said on the red carpet. "... Making a movie in China, I'm buzzing with good energy, I feel great here. I love the people I'm working with, I love the crew, and there's a genuine warmth and enthusiasm that I get from my conversations."

Quentin Tarantino, whose "Django Unchained" was released last year, was named Best Global Director in Motion Pictures.

"I've been a fan of Asian cinema my whole life growing up. I did my movie `Kill Bill' as a complete tribute to my love for it and so to come here amongst the Chinese film industry, get this from the Chinese fans is a dream come true," said Tarantino.

Television awards went to Matthew Perry of "Friends" and "Downton Abbey" actress Michelle Dockery, who were among the attendees who left a handprint on star-shaped plaques for Macau's Avenue of Stars.

"Avatar" star Sam Worthington, who received an award for Best Global Action Movie Actor, shared that his plans for next year include filming sequels of Academy Award-winning science fiction epic.

"Well, we start filming next year. We do `Avatar 2', `Avatar 3,' `Avatar 4.' Then they'll come out Christmas concurrently kind of thing, different Christmases. I'm not too sure where we're shooting at the moment. I know they're still writing it. I know Jim (director James Cameron) loves China, loves it," he said, referring to questions about returning to China. "Those types of films, if we get the opportunity to work here that'll be great. We'll see what happens."

AP

Actress Nicole Kidman, right, and Hong Kong action star Jackie Chan arrive at the 10th Huading Awards in Macau Monday, Oct. 7, 2013.

The Huading Awards, established in 2007 by the Beijing-based Global Talents Media Group, also recognized music, dance and theater.

Avril Lavigne, who walked the red carpet hand-in-hand with husband Chad Kroeger, has a particularly strong fan base in Asia and received the award for Best Global Singer.

"It was an honor and it was really sweet and I feel very happy and lucky to be here. Asia, everyone in Asia, has been really good. I have a lot of fans here so I'm going to start my tour here in February. I'll tour all across Asia, and so I feel very grateful for the fan base here," she said.

Jessica Jung, a member of the popular Korean girl group Girls Generation, appeared on behalf of her group to receive the award for Best Global Pop Band. The band is currently on tour in Asia.

"Well it's such an honor. I've never been to the Huading Awards, it's my first time. Thank you for such a nice award," she said.

Some Huading Awards are voted by fans and some winners are voted by experts. In 2014, the awards will be handed out in Los Angeles.

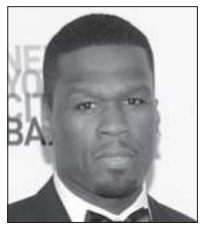
50 Cent says 'Dream School' is fresh reality show

NEW YORK (AP)—50 Cent said he's excited to be part of the new Sundance series "Dream School" because the reality show focuses on uplifting people.

"Dream School," which debuted Monday (10 p.m. EDT), follows a group of high school dropouts who are trying to graduate. 50 Cent appears in the series with filmmaker Oliver Stone and actor David Arquette.

"The actual reality programs that exist right now ... kind of focus on the train wreck, and this show is more about providing opportunity," the 38-year-old rapper said in an interview last week.

The 15 teenagers from the Los Angeles area who appear in the designed "dream school" dropped out of high school because of issues including fighting, financial problems and pregnancy. One transgender student said bullying forced him out of school and another didn't enter the ninth grade because he wanted to care for his cancer-stricken mother.



50 Cent

"I see a lot of myself in some of the kids," said 50 Cent, who grew up in Queens, N.Y. "My son is 17 and he could very well be in that situation if things didn't have a change for the better with me. I remember ... the obstacles of temptation in front of me."

"Dream School," a six-part series, also features Jesse Jackson, journalist Soledad O'Brien, astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison and producer-rapper Swizz Beatz. 50 Cent, who has sold millions of albums and has appeared in films, is one of the show's executive producers.

He said Arquette made an impact on the transgender student.

"The kid immediately had a connection that felt safe," he said of the 42-year-old actor, whose sibling, Alexis Arquette, is transgender. "Because of (David's) own journey, he was able to utilize his experience to make that person's experience better, and the guy went on to graduate."

Jessica Lange pens debut children's book

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Screen legend Jessica Lange says the secret to her longevity in Hollywood is simply trusting her instincts.

"As you can tell from looking at my career, there was no plan!" the 64-year-old said with a hearty laugh. "It's never setting out with a goal in mind or project or whatever. It's what kind of captures my imagination in the moment."

Lange's gut feeling recently led her to a new path as a children's book author. "It's About a Little Bird" follows two young sisters who discover an antique birdcage at their grandmothers' farm.

"It felt natural and organic and simple and kind of charmed," Lange said of creating the picture book based on her real-life experiences and featuring photographs she took and tinted by hand.

In an interview Monday, the two-time Academy Award winner discussed the book, which began as a handmade Christmas gift for her granddaughters, and the new season of her not-so-kid-friendly FX series "American Horror Story: Coven," premiering Wednesday.

AP

Jessica Lange arrives at the premiere screening of "American Horror Story: Coven" at the Pacific Design Center on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013 in West Hollywood, Calif.

AP: How did you go about writing "It's About a Little Bird?"

Jessica Lange: I didn't do it in that kind of deliberate way. It wasn't something that I had determined to do. It started really because I'm a photographer and I shoot black-and-white film. So that's kind of how it started, working on some of my own black-and-white imagery and hand-tinting them. ... And then one morning I woke up, I was up at my farm at upstate New York and I woke up and this story just kind of came to me and I thought, "I'm going to write this for my granddaughters, make this a story for them." ... And then from there it was one of those things where somebody said "why don't you print this?"

AP: Do your granddaughters get to see much of your work?

Lange: Well, obviously there's a lot they can't see, you know. I don't want them to see "Frances" or to see, you know, "Blue Sky." There's a lot that they'll see when they get older. ... I remember years ago when I won the Emmy for "Grey Gardens," which they hadn't seen, but they had seen a picture of me as like Edith Beale, which I'm sure was very confusing. But my daughter, in the morning when they woke up, showed them a little clip of me winning the Emmy and my speech and she told me later that day that my youngest granddaughter went to school and they asked if anybody had anything to share and she stood up and she said "my grandmother won a big prize!" So I thought that was great. That's kind of like as far as it goes for them.

AP: How did Ryan Murphy get you on board for three seasons of "American Horror Story"?

Lange: He called me up out of the blue—I had never met him—and started talking. And I just thought "wow, he's got quite a spiel here. This is really something." I haven't been kind of seduced like this in a long time. And you know he has a kind of uncanny intelligence about this, a talent, genius in a way and it became something really fascinating. ... He keeps kind of dangling that carrot out there. It's hard to say no.

AP: What can you tell us about your new "Coven" character Fiona Goode?

Lange: It's a woman who has ... all the powers in the world, and again I think it's a metaphor for a lot of different things, and who misuses it for the most selfish, self-serving purposes. You know has that kind of confrontation with her own mortality, finally, and realizes, you know, a wasted life. And what do you do at this age when you think, "I've wasted it all? I've thrown it all away?" ... That's a little bit of where that character is coming from and I don't know where she's going, to tell you the truth. I never know.

AP: What does success mean to you at this point in your career?

Lange: Box office success has never meant anything. I've never been so-called "box office." I mean I couldn't get a film made if I paid for it myself. So I'm not "box office" and never have been and that's never entered into my kind of mind set here. ... It is the kind of acknowledgment by other actors, really. That's really what is most meaningful.

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CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 3D [CC] (PG) (445 PM)
PRISONERS [CC,DV] (R) (400 PM) 720 PM
INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 2 [CC] (PG-13) (430 PM) 700 PM
THE FAMILY [CC] (R) (435 PM) 735 PM
PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS [CC] (PG) (425 PM) 725 PM

Times For 10/10 © 2013 www.REGmovies.com

Cyrus on making up with O'Connor: I don't know

NEW YORK (AP)—Miley Cyrus says she's not sure she'll make up with Sinead O'Connor after the back and forth drama between the singers.

When asked in an interview Tuesday if she and the 46-year-old performer would kiss and make up, Cyrus replied with: "I don't know. Are we supposed to kiss?"

Cyrus made the comments in New York when meeting fans at a CD signing for her new album, "Bangerz," released Tuesday.

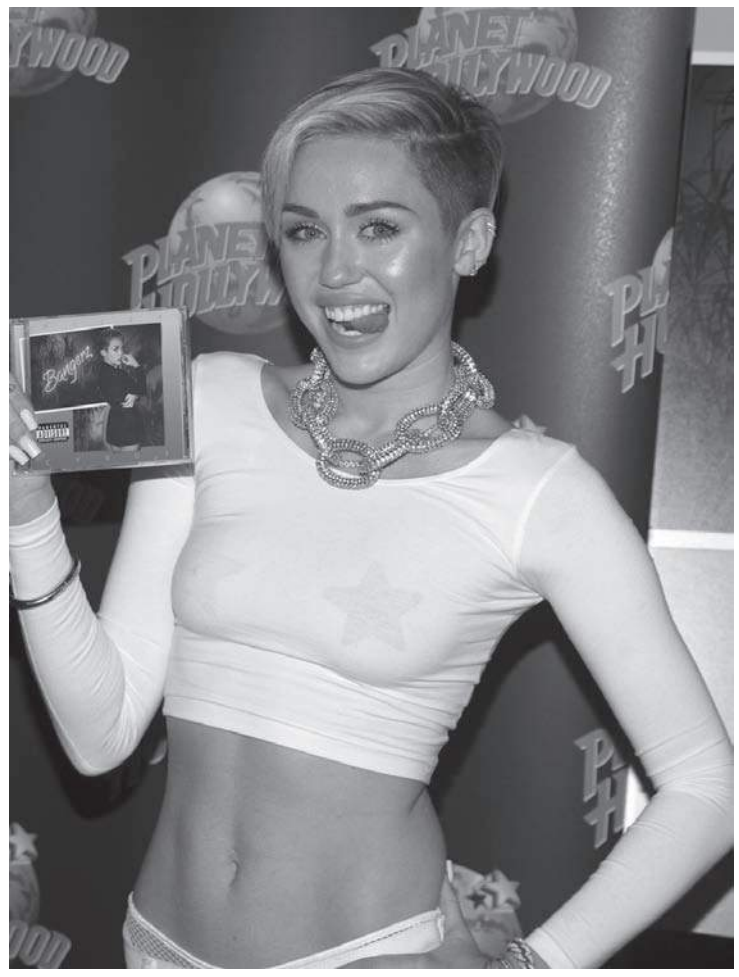
The drama launched last week when the Irish chanteuse warned the young singer to avoid being sexually exploited by the music industry. The first open letter came after Cyrus said her "Wrecking Ball" video, where she is nude and licks a sledgehammer, was inspired by O'Connor's famous "Nothing Compares 2 U."

Cyrus responded on Twitter by mentioning O'Connor's struggles with bipolar disorder and compared the singer-songwriter to troubled actress Amanda Bynes, who has been treated in a psychiatric hospital.

The feud between the performers continued Tuesday when O'Connor published a fourth open letter to Cyrus, asking for an apology.

The "We Can't Stop" singer was all smiles as she thanked the hundreds of fans at Planet Hollywood for buying and listening to her new album. "Bangerz" features Britney Spears, Pharrell, will.i.am and others.

"It's so rad to see all my fans out here. I've been trying to keep this music a secret for a year, so now that it's bumping on the speakers it feels so good," she said.



AP

Recording artist Miley Cyrus attends an album release signing event, on Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013, at Planet Hollywood in New York.

West to guest on Kimmel's night show after 'rap feud'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—ABC says Kanye West is appearing on Jimmy Kimmel's late-night show, less than two weeks after the pair got into what Kimmel called a "rap feud."

West

The musician will be a guest Wednesday on "Jimmy Kimmel Live," the network said Tuesday.

In late September, Kimmel's show aired a skit that mocked a West radio interview by having a child recreate it. West responded with an irate phone call to Kimmel and a series of Twitter messages that labeled the comedian out of line and unfunny.

Discussing the incident on his show last month, a smiling Kimmel said he always wanted to be in a rap feud. The talk show host is known for his parodies and pranks, including a recent staged twerking accident video that became an online sensation.

Taylor Swift sets songwriting record

AP

This Sept. 24, 2013 file photo shows singer Taylor Swift at the premiere of the "Romeo and Juliet" in Los Angeles.

NEW YORK (AP)—Taylor Swift has set a record with the Nashville Songwriters Association International.

The organization announced Tuesday that it would name Swift as its songwriter/artist of the year. This is her sixth win, beating out five-time winners Vince Gill and Alan Jackson.

The award recognizes Nashville acts that have achieved Top 30 singles. Swift has released 14 Top 30 songs from July 2012 through June 2013. She's also the youngest artist to win the honor.

Her six awards will be displayed at the Taylor Swift Education Center, which opens Saturday at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville. The 23-year-old singer donated $4 million to the center.

Kris and Bruce Jenner confirm they've split up

NEW YORK (AP)—Which "Keeping up with the Kardashians" couple might be on the rocks always makes for good tabloid fodder but one couple is ready to say they're over—and have been for a while.

Kris and Bruce Jenner have confirmed they separated a year ago, after 22 years together.

In an interview with US magazine hitting newsstands Friday, Kris Jenner says their scenes together on the show have been genuine and there's no animosity between them. She says they're committed to their family.

Her former Olympic champion husband says they'll always love and respect each other.

News of the split was first reported by E! News.

They say no divorce papers have been filed and that Bruce will continue to appear on the family's reality show.

The admission explains why on recent episodes, Bruce Jenner moved out to his own beach house, saying he needed more space.

The couple's teenage daughters, Kendall and Kylie, were also filmed joining him for the summer, because their house with mom Kris was too crowded after half-sister Kim Kardashian moved in with Kanye West and their new daughter.

Since Bruce Jenner moved out, he's still featured on the series often. Kris Jenner has taped scenes at his new home, as have the other Kardashian kids.

Kasem children seek control of his health care

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The three adult children of radio host Casey Kasem have filed a legal petition to gain control of his health care.

The filing says Kasem is suffering from advanced Parkinson's disease and is being isolated from his children, friends and family members by his wife.

The petition for conservatorship filed Monday brought a long-running family feud into the courts. The applicants, Julie, Kerri and Mike Kasem, contend that Kasem's wife Jean refuses to tell them the name of their father's primary care physician and they are unable to check on his condition.

Julie Kasem, who has a master's degree in medicine, and her husband, Dr. Jamil Aboulhosn, presented papers signed by her father in 2007 giving them power of attorney over his health care in the event he was unable to make such decisions himself.

But they said they are unable to fulfill their duties because Jean Kasem, his wife of 30 years, refuses to provide access to Kasem or the name of his doctor.

Attempts to reach Jean Kasem were unsuccessful.

The 81-year-old Kasem, who gained fame with his radio music countdown shows, "American Top 40" and "Casey's Top 40," was also the voice of Shaggy in the cartoon "Scooby Doo."

The court petition says he may have early onset Parkinson's dementia.

"The proposed conservatee has the ability to shuffle short distances, but is mainly bedridden and requires the assistance of a wheelchair to move any distance," the court papers state.

The filing asks that Jean Kasem allow the Kasem family to visit and carry out the directives of the 2007 health care authorization.

Man moved to San Francisco but left his heart back east

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my boyfriend off and on for nine years. When I moved to San Francisco, we separated for a year, until he decided he wanted to move here.

He has been miserable and depressed since he came. He misses his family and friends. His salary doesn't go as far here, so he's always short of money. He has also had a string of bad luck—speeding tickets, car repairs, a stolen bike and a back injury. He says he'll move back east soon if things don't get better, and it's making me anxious. He does nothing to turn around his problems.

How can I help him realize it takes time for a new city to feel like home and lessen my anxiety over his problems?

ANXIOUS IN THE BAY AREA

DEAR ANXIOUS: Your boyfriend does not appear to be anywhere near as adaptable as you are. You didn't mention how long he has been in California, but if it's longer than six months and he's still homesick, you may have a life-changing decision ahead of you. Would you rather live "in his world than live without him in" ... San Francisco? Even if YOUR heart's in San Francisco, HIS does not appear to be.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of nearly a year and I recently said "I love you" for the first time. Before he said it (he said it first) he told me he doesn't want to start saying it "all the time"—wherein lies my dilemma. How often is too often? Do I say it every night before bed or only on special occasions?

Please help because I'm confused, and I'm worrying that I'm hurting him because I haven't said it since that night four days ago. I don't want to smother him or make him feel uncomfortable.

HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

DEAR HOW MUCH: Not everyone is comfortable with verbal declarations of love, and your boyfriend may be one of them. Love is spontaneous, it's a feeling—not a mathematical formula. Only your boyfriend can tell you how often is too often for HIM.

However, if you are sharing a bed, you should be able to express yourself fully whenever you climb into it—and his reaction should be positive (if not reciprocal) when you do.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am far from flat-chested (I'm a happy B-cup), but you wouldn't call me "well-endowed." My question is, why is it that friends and family members who have larger breasts constantly ask me if I would like some of theirs? I think it's rude and, quite frankly, embarrassing. I would never turn the tables and say, "I'm feeling a little skinny. Could I have some of your fat?" What do I say when asked?

PERFECTLY FINE IN EVANSTON, WYO.

DEAR PERFECTLY FINE: A few responses come to mind; none that I'd print in a family newspaper. My advice is to keep it simple and nonconfrontational. Smile and say, "No thanks, I'm happy just the way I am!"

P.S. In my opinion, a B-cup IS well-endowed.

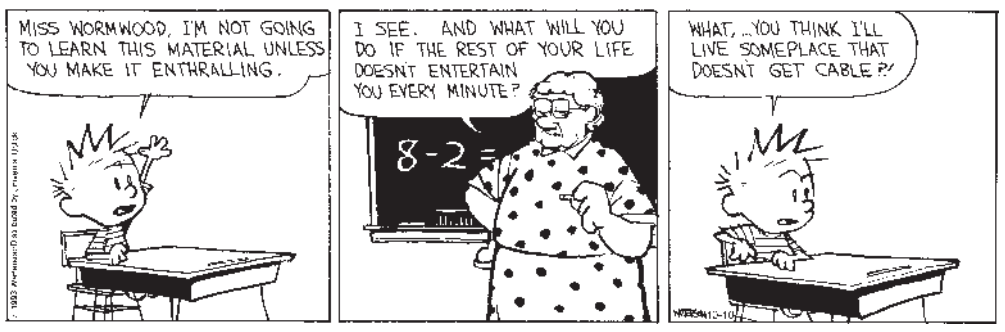
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested -- poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


MISS WORMWOOD, I'M NOT GOING TO LEARN THIS MATERIAL UNLESS YOU MAKE IT ENTHRALLING.
I SEE. AND WHAT WILL YOU DO IF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE DOESN'T ENTERTAIN YOU EVERY MINUTE?
8-2 =
WHAT, ...YOU THINK I'LL LIVE SOMEPLACE THAT DOESN'T GET CABLE?!

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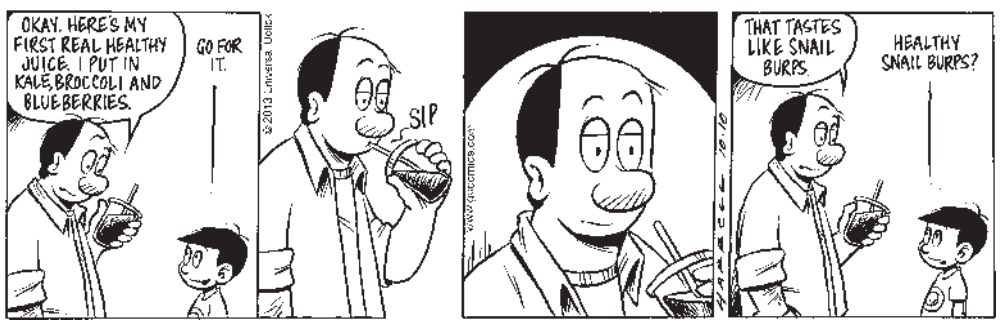
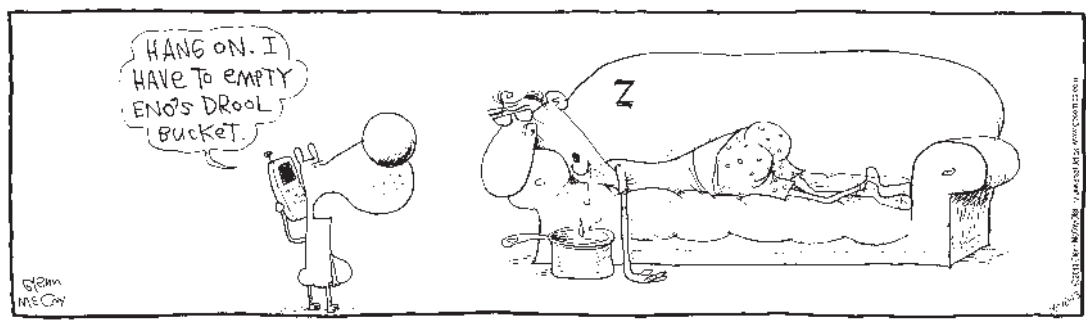
By Bryan Basset


OKAY. HERE'S MY FIRST REAL HEALTHY JUICE. I PUT IN KALE, BROCCOLI AND BLUEBERRIES.
GO FOR IT.
SIP
THAT TASTES LIKE SNAIL BURPS.
HEALTHY SNAIL BURPS?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

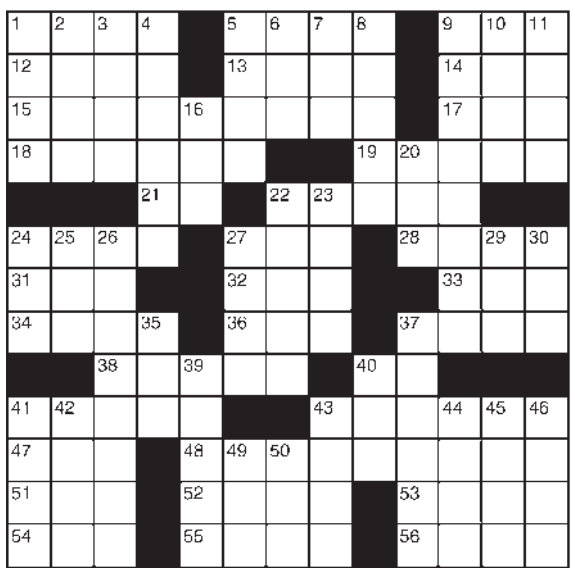
ACROSS
1 TV journalist Lisa
5 Hairless
9 They're checked at the door
12 Birthright barterer
13 Bread spread
14 "The Matrix" role
15 Incidentally
17 "Erie Canal" mule
18 Barrel parts
19 Syrup flavor
21 Prop for Paul Bunyan
22 One of Donald's exes
24 Oration station
27 Literary collection
28 "American —"
31 Grecian vessel
32 Petrol
33 Ram's mate
34 "Beetle Bailey" dog
36 Last (Abbr.)
37 Scandinavian city
38 Disney's mermaid
40 Hirt or Gore
41 Not as important
43 Chihuahua chums
47 Conclusion
48 Behind closed doors
51 Noshed
52 Appear
53 Grand-scale
54 Comical DeLuise
55 Coop group
56 Leftovers

DOWN
1 Wahine's gifts
2 "Well, — that special?"
3 California wine valley
4 Tropical fruits used in jelly
5 Employer
6 "The Greatest"
7 Writer Deighton
8 Belief
9 Extremely
10 Transaction
11 Unrivaled
16 Driver's license datum
20 Singer DiFranco
22 Totally
23 Expansive
24 Twosome
25 Illustrations
26 Together
27 Chills and fever
29 Hooter
30 Zodiac sign
35 Acapulco gold
37 Dickens-based musical
39 Hibernian
40 "What Kind of Fool —?"
41 Anthropologist Margaret
42 Grooving on
43 Weaponry
44 Stare open-mouthed
45 Singer Redding
46 Religious offshoot
49 Born
50 Corral

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	O	E	D	■	B	B	C	■	E	M	I	T
A	R	I	Y	■	O	I	L	■	R	A	R	E
M	A	N	I	T	O	B	A	■	I	N	O	N
P	L	A	N	E	S	■	S	A	T	I	N	S
■	■	■	G	E	T	■	S	U	R	F	■	■
T	A	M	■	M	E	W	■	G	E	O	D	E
S	L	A	V	■	H	O	D	■	A	L	U	M
P	A	N	I	C	■	O	R	B	■	D	O	S
■	■	I	Z	O	D	■	A	N	T	■	■	■
C	H	A	I	S	E	■	G	A	U	Z	E	S
L	I	C	E	■	M	A	N	I	C	U	R	E
A	F	A	R	■	O	W	E	■	K	N	I	T
M	I	L	S	■	N	E	T	■	S	I	N	S

Yesterday's answer 10-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18– only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Dale Earnhardt Jr., 39; Mario Lopez, 40; Wendi McLendon-Covey, 44; Bradley Whitford, 54.

Happy Birthday: Hone your skills and focus on what's important to you. Refuse to let poor past relationships interfere with your personal or professional future. Change can bring you a better lifestyle along with a more rewarding career. An unexpected change will allow you to turn a negative situation into a positive new beginning. Protect your health and your reputation. Your numbers are 3, 12, 16, 21, 27, 30, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You may feel restless and in need of a change, but stability will end up being more important. Put some effort into a project that can bring in more cash, and you will gain confidence that could lead to bigger and better prospects. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Honest talks will improve your relationships. A trip will take you back in time. Reconnect with people you miss and learn more about your roots. A change in the way you live will encourage you to take better care of your health. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): A personal problem will develop if you are too chummy with your peers and colleagues. Keep your personal life a secret and avoid letting your emotions interfere with your productivity at work. Someone will not be honest with you. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Your openness and contributions will be well-received and put you in a popular position. Socializing will lead to an unusual relationship. Share your concerns and your plans for the future, and someone will jump in and help you reach your goal. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Not everyone will agree with your choices or decisions. You have to follow your heart and do what works for you. A problem with someone who is negative or demanding must be dealt with if you are going to be able to advance. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Get involved in something you enjoy doing or spend time with people you find motivating and helpful. The changes going on in your personal life should be left to unfold naturally. In the end you will be the one who benefits. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Size up your situation and keep your spending to a minimum. Focus on what's most important to you and nurture emotional relationships. Self-improvement projects will help ease your stress and boost your morale. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Look, see and do. Follow through, and you will not upset anyone you are in a meaningful relationship with. It's important to show your strength, courage and ability to finish what you start. Make a positive change at home. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Home and self-improvements will put you in the spotlight. Bask in the attention you receive, but be honest when discussing what you've done and what you still plan to do. Don't lead someone make a promise you cannot keep. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Choose your battles carefully and avoid any sort of erratic behavior. Stick to your story and present what you have to offer. Practicality will play an important role in the outcome of a relationship you have with someone special. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Make the necessary changes that will help you get through any controversy or limitations you face. Take care of your health and protect what you've worked so hard to acquire. Change is good, but it must be for the right reason. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Look at the big picture, and you will find it easier to determine what's required of you financially, emotionally and physically. Good fortune can be yours with the right moves and motives. Expand your interests and outlooks. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable, original and knowledgeable. You are passionate and outgoing.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		6		7		4		
	5						7	
2		1	9			3		5
						8		
5				9				2
		4						
3		8			4	7		6
	4						8	
		9		6		1		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	7	4	3	2	8	6	1	9
2	1	8	6	9	5	7	3	4
9	3	6	1	4	7	2	5	8
8	5	3	7	6	9	4	2	1
6	4	1	8	3	2	5	9	7
7	9	2	4	5	1	8	6	3
4	8	5	2	1	3	9	7	6
3	2	7	9	8	6	1	4	5
1	6	9	5	7	4	3	8	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FRANKFURTERS Solution: 7 letters

S	H	M	E	B	H	S	W	C	M	S	S	N	I	R
O	T	C	U	S	K	A	A	A	U	B	I	N	O	E
U	I	N	I	S	E	R	C	L	R	H	I	A	L	C
R	S	L	E	W	T	E	O	E	T	M	S	P	A	I
C	E	A	I	M	D	A	H	P	G	T	U	D	R	P
R	A	Y	V	H	I	N	R	C	E	R	I	L	U	E
E	S	M	N	E	C	D	A	D	Y	P	O	S	T	M
A	O	A	E	A	R	S	N	S	S	A	P	U	A	A
M	N	N	S	R	M	K	N	O	D	T	L	E	N	G
S	I	I	I	O	I	R	R	W	C	A	I	L	R	D
U	N	Ⓛ	K	O	O	C	E	A	O	E	O	L	S	I
G	G	Ⓔ	O	C	N	S	A	G	U	R	R	I	E	N
A	D	Ⓐ	G	N	I	S	D	N	E	T	B	R	I	N
R	K	Ⓝ	I	P	G	H	S	I	N	R	A	G	R	E
S	G	N	I	P	P	O	T	S	K	N	A	R	F	R

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American, Broil, Brown, Buns, Cart, Casing, Cheese, Chili, Condiments, Corn Syrup, Dinner, Dips, Franks, Fries, Game, Garnish, Germany, Grill, Ground, Herbs, Kids, Kraut, Lean, Load, Long, Mace, Mini, Mustard, Natural, Onions, Pepper, Pink, Pork, Recipe, Relish, Roasted, Salt, Sandwich, Saver, Seasoning, Smoked, Sour Cream, Sugar, Thick, Thin, Toppings, Treat, Warm.

Yesterday's Answer: Basket

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St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

WATER TREATMENT TECHNICIAN

- Must be able to perform tasks which may at first glance not appear difficult but require a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain the system.
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory of fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems.
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment and distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit.
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities
- Be familiar with the safety and life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency test for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II.
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with electricity
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with pressure vessels
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with PVC
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 10/11/2013 at 4:00 pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – WELDER

Must have skills in welding metal components together in flat, vertical or overhead position to form, repair and fabricate metal products, cracked or broken component using arc and gas welding. Must have ability to read lay outs and blue prints, and follow work orders. Operate safety equipment and use safe work habits . At least (4) years minimum related experience in a construction and heavy equipments.

Interested qualified applicants submit complete application or resume and latest police clearance via e-mail at saipan@aiconstruction or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc. , PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Closing date: 10/15/13

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Century Tours, Inc. *is inviting qualified U.S. workers to fill the following positions:*

Administrative Assistant (01)

Job Duties: Perform a variety of tasks related to the administrative support of the retail outlet such as: assist Management and needs of employees. Manage cash management processes. Maintain safe work environment. Mentor others in the performance of their job duties. Communicate effectively with all contacts. Support all company policies and procedures. Complies with all governmental agency rules and regulations. Ensure that all activities are consistent with company mission statement. Other duties as assigned from time to time.

Requirements: Prior experience preferred. Knowledge of standard office equipments. Knowledge in basic arithmetic. Flexibility to perform assigned tasks independently or as part of a team. Well-developed keyboarding skills and 10-key skills. Sense of urgency. Ability to manage multiple priorities and meet frequent short timeline goals and deadlines. Possess superb customer service and communication skills. Have at least 1 or more years of work experience in travel or tour operation. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Accountant (01)

Job Summary:
Prepare, examine, or analyze accounting records, financial statements, or other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness, and conformance to reporting and procedural standards; prepare daily and weekly report by collecting, compiling, analyzing and summarizing accounting information; report to Accounting Manager and Management regarding the finances of the company; Assign entries to proper accounts; develop, implement, modify, and document record keeping and accounting systems, making use of current computer technology; compute taxes owed and prepare tax returns, ensuring compliance with payment, reporting or other tax requirements; develop, maintain, and analyze budgets, preparing periodic reports that compare budgeted costs against actual costs; analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues, financial commitments and obligations to project future revenues and expenses or to provide advice; and perform other related duties as required or as assigned.

Qualification Requirements:
Associate degree in Accounting with at least 5 years work experience in general and financial accounting in a tour operation, sales or service based work environment; must be proficient in Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, Power point) and in the use of SAP-R3 FICO (financial and controlling) system, ERP system, and HR2 system; must have excellent organizational skills; be personable and flexible under pressure, be able to work independently with detailed projects and have an aptitude to learn new skills, and must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Tour Guide (01)

Job Summary:
Perform all and/or any combination of the following duties: Escort individuals or groups on short cruises, sightseeing tours or through places of interest, jungle tours, water sports and other beach activities, shopping dining, etc. describe tour points of interest to individuals or groups, and respond to questions; monitor guests' activities in order to ensure compliance with company or tour regulations and safety practices, greet and register visitors and issue any required identification badges and/or safety devices, distribute brochures, show individual presentations and/or explain company processes and operation at tour sites, and perform other related duties as assigned or as required.

Qualification Requirements:
High School Graduate, GED or equivalent and must have 1 or more years work experience in travel or tour operation, sales or service related work. English and Chinese speaker preferred. Must have a valid driver's license with clean driving record. Must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Highly motivated, organized, outgoing with excellent communication, customer, sales and leadership skills is an advantage.

Applications may be obtained at the Kanoa Resort on Beach Road in Susupe, Saipan while resumes may be emailed at camille.orallo@saipan.travel. All resumes and applications must be submitted to the Human Resources Department at the Century Tours, Inc. Front Office no later than October 15, 2013. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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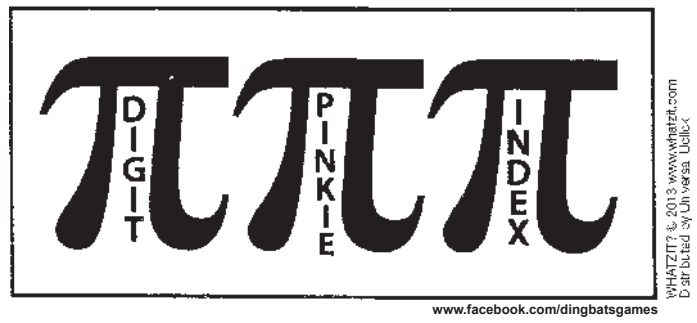

Find today's solution in classified section

Red Sox beat Rays in Game 4 to reach ALCS

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) —Shane Victorino's infield single snapped a seventh-inning tie and journeyman Craig Breslow gave Boston a huge boost out of the bullpen, sending the Red Sox into the AL championship series with a 3-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday night.

Koji Uehara got the final four outs - one night after giving up a game-winning homer - and the Red Sox rebounded to take the best-of-five playoff 3-1.

Back in the ALCS for the first time in five years, they'll open at home Saturday against the Athletics or Tigers. Oakland hosts Detroit in a decisive Game 5 on Thursday.

"It's great, but we've still got one more to get where we want to be," Victorino said. "We're going to get a few days off to rest and see what happens in the other division series, and we'll go from there."

Both managers mixed and matched all night in a tense game that felt more like a chess match. Desperately trying to avoid elimination, Rays skipper Joe Maddon used nine pitchers and had ace David Price warming up for a potential 10th inning.

Breslow relieved Boston starter Jake Peavy in the sixth and struck out his first four batters - all of them in the middle of Tampa Bay's lineup. The 33-year-old lefty from Yale has pitched for six teams in eight big league seasons, including two stints with the Red Sox.

The highest-scoring team in the majors this year, Boston scratched out three runs on six singles in a game that featured only one extra-base hit. But that was enough to finally eliminate the resilient Rays, who won four win-or-go-home games over the previous nine days.

Making their fourth playoff appearance in six years, the low-budget Rays have not advanced past the division series since reaching the 2008 World Series.

Xander Bogaerts scored the tying run on Joel Peralta's wild pitch in the seventh and Victorino followed with an RBI infield single. Dustin Pedroia drove in Bogaerts with a sacrifice fly in the ninth to make it 3-1, and Uehara struck out Evan Longoria to end it.

"It feels great," outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury said. "We played a great team over there. It was a hard-fought game. It's more mentally tiring than anything. But it's a fun group of guys."

David DeJesus snapped a scoreless tie with an RBI single in the sixth for the wild-card Rays, and Boston squandered several opportunities before finally breaking through in the seventh.

Bogaerts drew a pinch-hit walk with one out and raced to third on Ellsbury's two-out single off Jake McGee. The Rays brought on their sixth pitcher, Peralta, and the game shifted suddenly on his first pitch, which skipped in the dirt past catcher Jose Lobaton - allowing the tying run to score.

Boston Red Sox players celebrate after defeating the Tampa Bay Rays,3-1, to win baseball's American League division series, Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Ellsbury was stealing second on the pitch and continued to third when the ball rolled toward the backstop. Victorino beat out a slow chopper to shortstop, putting the Red Sox ahead 2-1.

Breslow pitched 1 2-3 scoreless innings for the win. Uehara earned a save, bouncing back from Lobaton's ninth-inning homer in Game 3.

Tampa Bay won three win-or-go-home games just to get into the division series last week. Coming from behind in another elimination game Monday gave them hope of taking the series back to Fenway Park, where the Rays were outscored 19-6 in the first two games.

The trip to the ALCS will be Boston's first since 2008, when the Red Sox lost in seven games to Tampa Bay.

When the Red Sox acquired Peavy from the Chicago White Sox at the trade deadline, they had nights like this in mind. The 32-year-old right-hander made his third career postseason start 2,562 days—a span of seven years, five days—after starting Game 1 of the NL division series for San Diego in 2006.

Both he and Rays starter Jeremy Hellickson were working with plenty of rest.

Although he pitched two innings in a simulated game last week while the Red Sox were waiting to learn who they would face, Peavy hadn't appeared in a major league game in 13 days. Hellickson hadn't pitched since Sept. 27, and his selection as Tampa Bay's starter in an elimination game was somewhat of a surprise.

Although the 26-year-old righty made a team-high 31 starts this season, Hellickson lost seven of his last eight decisions - winning just once after July 26. His career-high 5.17 ERA was the second-highest in the AL to Joe Saunders' 5.26 with Seattle, but Maddon said he was confident a well-rested Hellickson would perform better than he did down the stretch.

And for one inning, he did.

But after a 1-2-3 first, Hellickson walked David Ortiz and Mike Napoli on eight straight pitches to begin the second. Daniel Nava singled to load the bases, and Maddon had seen enough.

Jamey Wright, an 18-year veteran in his first postseason series, replaced Hellickson and worked out of the jam by striking out Jarrod Saltalamacchia and getting Stephen Drew to hit a hard liner that first baseman James Loney caught and turned into an inning-ending double play with a heads-up throw to second to catch Napoli off the bag.

A foot higher and Drew might well have had a three-run double. Instead it was more frustration for the Red Sox, who went 2 for 14 with runners in scoring position during Monday night's 5-4 loss in Game 3.

The AL East champions also failed to score with runners at first and second and two outs in the fourth against Matt Moore. They did it again against Alex Torres in the fifth.

Peavy, meanwhile, escaped a tight spot in the third when DeJesus grounded back to the mound to begin an inning-ending double play after Yunel Escobar and Lobaton singled with one out. Peavy wasn't able to do it again after Escobar doubled off the left-field wall to begin the sixth.

DeJesus, acquired in an August trade and also in the postseason for the first time, lined a 1-1 pitch to right field to drive in Escobar.

Peavy allowed one run, five hits and struck out three in 5 2-3 innings.

Tigers 8, Athletics 6

In Detroit, on a night of desperation, dispute and finally, delirium, Max Scherzer and the Detroit Tigers kept their season alive by the slimmest of margins.

A tying home run, helped along by a couple of fans in right field.

A full-count pitch with the bases loaded that was low and inside but became strike three when the batter swung.

A line drive down the line with the bases still full - foul by a few feet.

During a relief outing to remember, Scherzer escaped a major jam one inning after two fans reached out to try to reel in Victor Martinez's disputed home run, and the Tigers rallied past the Oakland Athletics 8-6 on Tuesday to force a decisive fifth game in their AL division series.

Scherzer was in line to start Game 5, but the 21-game winner came on Tuesday instead for his first relief appearance since the 2011 postseason. He wriggled out of a bases-loaded, none-out jam in the eighth inning and got the win.

"We took our best shot and we had to because we were behind the 8-ball a little bit," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said. "We took that shot and, hey, both teams are going to have a good pitcher going two days from now."

After avoiding elimination, the Tigers can now send Justin Verlander to the mound Thursday night in Oakland. Verlander shut out the A's at the Coliseum in Game 5 of the division series last year.

Oakland hasn't announced a starter for Thursday. It is Bartolo Colon's turn in the postseason rotation, but rookie Sonny Gray could also come back on normal rest after a brilliant performance in Game 2.

"We haven't decided anything yet," manager Bob Melvin said.

Playing catch-up most of the way in Game 4, the Tigers tied it first with Jhonny Peralta's three-run homer in the fifth and then on Martinez's solo shot in the seventh. A couple of fans attempted to catch Martinez's drive, and at least one of them bobbled the ball as he reached over the railing above the wall.

That prevented right fielder Josh Reddick from having any chance at a leaping grab. Reddick and center fielder Coco Crisp immediately protested, pointing up at the stands in the hope of a fan-interference call. But umpires upheld the home run after a replay review.

"I have no doubt I was going to catch that ball. When I looked at the replay, that's what I thought," Reddick said. "It's totally frustrating that a fan can influence the game."

Gary Darling, the crew chief, was umpiring in right field. He disagreed, even after the replay.

"It was clear he was not going to catch the ball, so it was clearly going to be a home run," Darling said. "There wasn't any other evidence on replay to turn it another way."

Scherzer came out of the bullpen in the seventh and gave up a run, then ran into trouble again in the eighth. With the Tigers ahead 5-4, he allowed a walk and a double to start the inning. But after an intentional walk to load the bases, Leyland left his ace on the mound.

Scherzer struck out Reddick, who swung and missed at what would have been ball four on a low, inside pitch. Stephen Vogt struck out too, but pinch-hitter Alberto Callaspo's line drive to left nearly fell in before landing foul.

Callaspo eventually lined out to center.

"It was surreal," said Scherzer, the winning pitcher in both Detroit victories this series. "Maybe it's not the ninth inning, but that's the stuff you dream about pitching - bases loaded, eighth inning, no outs, and I was able to do it."

Detroit, held hitless through four innings in a game of twists and turns, added three runs in the eighth on a wild pitch and a two-run double by Omar Infante that made it 8-4.

Yoenis Cespedes hit a two-run single in the ninth, bringing the potential tying run to the plate, but Joaquin Benoit struck out Seth Smith to end it.

Crisp had four hits and three runs for the A's, who led 3-0 and 4-3 but couldn't close out the defending American League champions. The Oakland bullpen hadn't allowed a run all series until Tuesday.

After Crisp put the A's ahead 4-3 with an RBI single off Scherzer in the seventh, Martinez lifted a fly to right against reliever Sean Doolittle. It would have been an extremely difficult catch for Reddick, and it looked as though the ball might have cleared the wall even without the fans' involvement.

Jets QB Sanchez has season-ending shoulder surgery

NEW YORK (AP)—Mark Sanchez's season is over. It might be the end of his time with the New York Jets, too.

The maligned quarterback, who was once dubbed "The Sanchize" and drew early comparisons to Joe Namath, had season-ending surgery on his right shoulder Tuesday.

The procedure, which repaired a torn labrum, was performed by Dr. James Andrews, the team announced. Sanchez, who hasn't played since being injured in the third preseason game, said he was advised by Andrews and other doctors to have surgery after seven weeks of rehabilitation.

"I'm very disappointed that I can't be out there to help my team on the field," Sanchez said in a statement, "but I'll continue to help our team in whatever capacity I can."

Whether that is the case beyond this season remains to be seen.

Sanchez, the team's top draft pick out of Southern California in 2009, helped lead the Jets to consecutive trips to the AFC championship game in his first two seasons. While his overall numbers were far from eye-popping, his success with the team was unparalleled for a Jets quarterback in his first two seasons. With his good looks and big-time potential, many fans and media likened Sanchez to the next Broadway Joe.

The Jets and then-general manager Mike Tannenbaum rewarded Sanchez with a hefty three-year contract extension following the 2011 season, a deal that included about $20 million in guarantees.

But things really unraveled last season, culminating in him being benched for a game in favor of Greg McElroy. His 52 turnovers the last two years were the most in the NFL during that span, leading to concerns as to whether Sanchez could turn things around and live up to the expectations the Jets had when they made him the No. 5 overall pick.

The Jets drafted Geno Smith in the second round in April to provide stiff competition for Sanchez for the first time in his career, and the rookie now appears to be the future of the team.

Sanchez still has three years remaining on his contract, which included $8.25 million in guarantees this year, but it's a strong possibility the Jets could make room under their salary cap next offseason by parting ways with him.

"Throughout this process, our goal has been to provide Mark every opportunity to return this season," general manager John Idzik said in a statement. "He and our medical staff have worked very diligently to that end and now it has been concluded that surgery is required. He will have our full support for a complete recovery."

The New York Jets' Mark Sanchez had season-ending surgery on his right shoulder last Tuesday.

Sanchez was placed on short-term injured reserve on Sept. 14, meaning he would not be able to play for eight weeks while he recovered. At that time, he thought he would still be able to return this season and possibly reclaim his starting job.

He acknowledged then that surgery was a possibility at some point, but doctors were encouraged by his rehab to that point.

"After over seven weeks of hard work and intense rehab, I've been advised by Dr. Andrews and other doctors that my shoulder injury clearly needs to be addressed surgically," Sanchez said in the statement issued by the team. "The injury was recovering at an encouraging rate early on and I avoided surgery as long as I could.

"But, ultimately, I was counseled by the doctors that they simply would have to repair my shoulder."

Sanchez was in a tight competition with Smith for the starting job this summer before he was injured against the Giants when he took a hard shot to his shoulder from Marvin Austin. The injury occurred in the fourth quarter with mostly backups in the game, and coach Rex Ryan has taken a lot of criticism for putting the quarterback in that position.

Many speculated that, after a poor showing by Smith in that game, Sanchez had wrapped up the starting job after a solid preseason. Ryan disagreed with that notion, saying a decision on the starter had not been determined at that point.

Smith has been up and down in his first five NFL starts, but led the team to a 30-28 victory on Monday night at Atlanta with a terrific performance. Many believe Smith is the future of the franchise - meaning Sanchez has seen his likely final days as a starter with the Jets.

Still, even knowing that he was to undergo surgery the next day and his status with the team beyond this season unclear, Sanchez pumped his fist and yelled in celebration as Nick Folk kicked the winning field goal to beat the Falcons on Monday night. Smith has often spoke highly of how Sanchez handled himself during the training camp competition, and how he has helped him adjust to playing in the NFL.

Falcons could lose Jones

In Georgia, Atlanta Falcons coach Mike Smith sounded dismayed while discussing his team's latest major injury.

This time the bad news concerned Pro Bowl receiver Julio Jones, who could miss the rest of the season after injuring his foot in Monday's 30-28 home loss to the New York Jets.

"He saw our doctors this morning," Smith said Tuesday. "He is going to have a second opinion tomorrow. The first reports were not encouraging, but we will wait and see what the second opinion comes back as."

Atlanta (1-4) heads into its bye week riding a three-game losing streak, a tough reality check for a team that's never dropped more than two straight regular season games in six seasons under Smith.

The Falcons' four losses have come by an average of 4.8 points, dropping the defending NFC South champions four games behind division-leading New Orleans.

Offensively, Atlanta has faltered late in potential game-winning situations at New Orleans and at home against New England. Defensively, the Falcons have given up late leads at Miami and against the Jets.

Colts' Bradshaw out

In Indianapolis, Ahmad Bradshaw's season is over and his brief stop in Indy might be, too.

Team owner Jim Irsay said Tuesday that the running back will miss the rest of the season after opting for season-surgery on his injured neck. The former Giants star was injured two weeks ago during a game at San Francisco and had been debating whether to undergo surgery or see if he could recover with rest. Bradshaw has already been placed on the injured reserve list.

Irsay confirmed the news while to speaking to reporters at the NFL owners meeting in Washington.

The decision came sooner than some expected.

"Ahmad has obviously seen several specialists, collected a lot of information," coach Chuck Pagano said Friday. "He's going to take the next couple weeks to kind of sit back and decide where he's going to go with this thing."

Losing Bradshaw is yet another blow to a Colts offense that had already lost three starters with season-ending injuries - tight end Dwayne Allen (hip), running back Vick Ballard (knee) and left guard Donald Thomas (quad).

Indy (4-1) signed Bradshaw to a one-year contract in June, four months after he was released by the Giants in a salary-cap move and while he was still recovering from offseason foot surgery.

NOLA, Indy, Minny make cut for 2018 Super Bowl

WASHINGTON (AP)—The 2018 Super Bowl could be headed back to a recent host city. Or to one that hasn't staged the game in more than two decades.

New Orleans and Indianapolis, the sites of the past two Super Bowls, and Minneapolis are the three finalists to host the NFL championship game in `18.

Those cities were selected from a pool of six at the owners' meetings Tuesday. Should Lucas Oil Stadium get the game, it would be the first cold-weather stadium to host two Super Bowls.

"It proves that Indianapolis is really a unique city, being a medium-sized market in a colder market, without 80 degrees and beaches," Colts owner Jim Irsay said. "I think we have the unique ability in Indianapolis to really deliver a Super Bowl that gets pulled off in a way that's special."

New Orleans has hosted 10 Super Bowls, including last February's game that was interrupted by a blackout. That apparently didn't bother the owners during Tuesday's selection process.

"The Super Bowl is a celebration of unparalleled magnitude. What better time for New Orleans to host its record 11th Super Bowl than during a party 300 years in the making?" Jay Cicero, Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation president and CEO, said of the city's 2018 tri-centennial.

Minneapolis last hosted the title game in January 1992. A $975 million stadium is going to be built in downtown Minneapolis, with the projected opening coming in 2016.

The NFL often rewards a city for building a new stadium with a Super Bowl, as was done in recent years for Detroit, the Phoenix area, the Dallas area, and Indianapolis.

"The Vikings organization and our political leaders in Minnesota fought a long battle, spent more than 12 years to secure the new stadium for the team and the state," said Lester Bagley the vice president for public affairs and stadium development for the Vikings, "and during that long and contentious debate the Vikings made a commitment to take the lead and advocate with the NFL to host the Super Bowl 2018 in Minneapolis.

"Minnesota stepped up to deliver a great new stadium, and we will push hard to deliver the reward."

The 2018 Super Bowl will be awarded next May. The next four Super Bowls are in New Jersey, Arizona, Santa Clara, Calif., and Houston.

The NFL will play three regular-season games at London's Wembley Stadium next year, hosted by the Jaguars, Falcons and Raiders. It will be the most games the league has played abroad in one year. This season was the first one with two games: Minnesota beat Pittsburgh 34-27 in September, and Jacksonville will host San Francisco on Oct. 27 as part of a four-year commitment to move a home game to Wembley.

Dates and opponents for the games will be announced when the schedule is compiled next year.

"Our fans in the UK have continued to demonstrate that they love football and want more," said Commissioner Roger Goodell, who has championed overseas games for years and someday believes the NFL will have a franchise based in London. "Both of this year's games in London sold out quickly. The fan enthusiasm for our sport continues to grow. By playing two games in the UK this year, we are creating more fans. We hope that with three games in London next year we will attract even more people to our game."

4 teams stay perfect in M-League

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Wild Bill's Robert Jordan goes for a header during their Week 1 game against Paire FC in the M-League last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United led three other teams with an unbeaten record in the M-League after Week 2 games were played at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United, which whipped Kanoa FC in Week 1, 9-1, moved up to a 2-0 slate after a 1-0 victory over Paire in the first game in Division 1 last Sunday. Jehn Joyner delivered the winning goal for MP United, as he scored five minutes before the match ended.

With the loss, Paire fell to a 0-2 start this season.

KFAS 3, Kanoa 2

In the second match last Sunday, Korean Football Association on Saipan also notched a 2-0 record after slipping past Kanoa FC (0-2)

Jun Woo Lee lifted KFAS to its second win after making the go-ahead goal in the 78th minute. KFAS, which prevailed over Matansa in Week 1, 3-1, got its two other goals off penalty kicks from Chong Koo Gil in the first half.

Evan Belcher made it to the board, too, in the first half with his goal in the 8th minute, while Kwang Oh Jae hit the equalizer two minutes into the second half.

Wild Bill's 2, Inter Godfather's 0

In the third game, Wild Bill's shut out Inter Godfather's to join KFAS, MP United, and Tan Holdings in the four-way tie for the lead in Division 1.

Wild Bill's, which won over Paire in the opening week, 2-1, got one goal each from Tanapon Unsa and Jack Thoensaket to remain undefeated early this fall season. Wild Bill's pair of goals came in the first half and Inter failed to retaliate to drop to a 0-2 card.

Tan Holdings 8, Matansa 1

Tan Holdings played in the last game in Week 2 and clobbered Matansa (0-2).

Joe Miller, who scored a hat-trick in their debut win, picked up where he left off, notching five goals. He recorded Tan Holding's first goals in the opening half and then nailed a hat-trick in the second half. Pun Wong Kwo added two goals, while Sean Perez chipped in one.

Qing Long Yu tallied the lone goal for Matansa.

DIVISION 2
Shirley's 2, Thundercats 1

In Division 1, Shirley's took the early lead, as it improved to a 2-0 record after beating the Thundercats last Wednesday.

Scorers for Shirley's were not listed in the match report, but both goals were drilled in the first half. The Thundercats, which had a draw against Sun Palace in Week 1, 3-3, got one goal in the second half.

Sun Palace 3, WNT 1

In the other Division 2 match in Week 2, Sun Palace (1-1) prevailed over the Women's National Team (0-2).

Three different players scored for Sun Palace with Jihu Jin drawing first blood with his goal in the 11th minute. Sun Palace's last two goals were earned in the second half with Yong Chul Jang hitting the board in the 57th minute and Guanglin Li scoring four minutes later.

The Women's National Team avoided a shutout when Lalaine Pagarao found the back of the net in the 86th minute.

ME to host Pre-HOM Bike Race this Sunday

The CNMI Chapter of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter will be hosting the Pre-HOM Fundraising Bike Race this Sunday.

ME is a non-profit organization designed to help married couples live a more harmonious life through enhanced communication skills. The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is set for Nov. 8 to 10 at the Kanoa Resort where approximately 25 couples will be "Encountered". Each weekend is a financial endeavor to raise $10,000 to cover the costs of the hotel, meals, and materials for all the couples and the presenters. As such, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is organizing a series of fundraising activities this season.

ME will be organizing a Pre-HOM Fundraising Bike Race for the island's cycling community. There will be four courses (8km, 16km, 25km & 50km) and families are invited to participate. Entry fees are $10 for adults and $5 for children (6-13 age group) and raffles tickets will be available for sale. Race registration is from 5am to 5:30am, while the race starts at 6am in front of the Mariana Resort and Spa entrance.

ME sincerely appreciates raffle donations from the following supportive companies: PTC (Sunkist), Triple J, Mariana Resort & Spa, DFS, YCO True Value Hardware, Handbags etc., PIC, Saipan World Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Kanoa Resort, Gold's Gym, SPDA Engineers.

For more information, please call 285-1168. ***(PR)***

SWIMMERS

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est time in the women's 50m freestyle at 30.81 seconds, just .29 of a second slower than her seed and PBT of 30.52 seconds, while Tsunami Saipan's Angel De Jesus had the second best time at 31.75 seconds.

In the men's 50m freestyle, 16 swimmers earned PBTs. Bagging PBTs for SSC were Taiga Sato (37.22 seconds), David Boyer (37.24 seconds), Rintaro Miyawaki (39.33 seconds), Leo Takahashi (43.81 seconds), and Wataru Kadokura (1:22.73 seconds). Kenshiro Yanai led 11 other Tsunami Saipan swimmers who set PBTs in this sprint event, as the 8-year-old swimmer timed in at 37.76 seconds. Joining him on the list were Jhota Yoshino (44.55 seconds), Nelson Batallones (44.82 seconds), Anthony Deleon Guerrero (46.48 seconds), Tychicus Xu (49.95 seconds), Hans Su (51.09 seconds), Silas Su (51.72 seconds), Rentaro Suzuki (55.54 seconds), Arman Rechucher (1:00.32), and Isaiah Aleksenko (1:01.01).

Tsunami Saipan swimmers also tallied the Top 3 best times in the men's 50m freestyle, but Takumi Sugie and brothers Hiroto and Ryuto Yanai missed PBTs. Sugie, who had a PBT of 28.52 seconds, finished the sprint race in 28.57 seconds, while Hiroto and Ryuto clocked in at 31.02 second (PBT is 30.50 seconds) and 32.57 seconds (PBT is 32.30 seconds), respectively.

Before the 50m freestyle event, NMISF first held the 400m freestyle race with Chentsova completing the eight-lap competition in 5:04.14, more than five seconds slower than her PBT of 4:59.78 . Another SSC swimmer, Conatsu Kaga joined the same race and recorded a PBT with her 7:22.85 (from 8:01.65). Kento Akimaru, also from SSC, was the lone entry in the men's 400m freestyle and timed in at 5:03.08, chopping off about four seconds from his previous PBT (5:07.45).

TIGHT

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In the doubles, Kaipat and Jones are still in a deadlock with 4 each and the latter also tied the Braves' Cody Kaipat in the most triples with two apiece. In the RBIs race, the Giants' Devyn Flores is ahead with his 7, while the Tigers' Ricard Dela Cruz has 6.

In the pitching race, J.J. Lifoifoi of the Braves is still on top with his 0.00 ERA. Lifoifoi pitched 13 innings and though four runs were scored with him on the mound, none were earned ones. Brel and the Tigers' Justin Reyes have similar 0.46 ERA to tie for second, while another Tigers pitcher, Bret Halstead, rounded out the Top 3 with his 0.82.

In the strikeouts category, Brian Camacho is on top with 24 Ks, two more ahead of the Tigers' Jose Lizama. Darion Jones made the Top 3 with his 21 strikeouts.

LADY

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Two Kagman defenders went on to hound Amandus, who eventually lost the leather to the sideline, returning possession to the Lady Ayuyus.

Both teams had no timeout left so Kagman went for the quick inbound and with the ball in play, Southern's bench shouted at its players to give up a foul and stop the clock. However, that call fell on deaf ears for several seconds and when the Lady Rays finally decided to foul Kagman, the clock was down to less than two seconds.

The Southern-Kagman match went down-to-the-wire after the Lady Rays forced a stalemate, 31-all, with still 3:40 left in the fourth quarter. A Keisey Lizama putback off a missed free throw gave the lead back to Kagman, while Trina Santos escaped with a breakaway layup for more cushion. However, Rogoyowa kept the Lady Rays in the game with her inside baskets, while Kagman's Jeromalyn Santos failed to secure the win early, as she went 2-for-4 from the foul line. Santos' last split handed Kagman a 4-point advantage, 37-33, and the Lady Ayuyus could have wasted the clock after Southern faltered on the other end, but decided to attack the basket and missed, too. After the botched play, Rogoyowa went all the way to the basket to threaten Kagman anew.

Meanwhile, MHS drew first blood this season after beating Mt. Carmel last week, 54-43.

It was a come-from-behind victory for the defending champions, who exploded for 24 points in the fourth quarter to foil the Lady Knights' upset bid.

The Lady Dolphins trailed by as much as 8 points in the first half and were still down after the third, 30-31, when they went all out in the fourth and final canto for the 11-point victory. Kayla Ito led the fourth-quarter assault, scoring 10 of her 15 points in that period.

In other results, the first two junior varsity games this season were won via forfeits with Southern beating Kagman and MHS prevailing over Marianas Baptists Academy.

First Game

MHS 54 – Ito 15, Castillo 14, Pablo 13, Race 4, Lumabi 1, Lopez 1.

MCS 43 – Travilla 18, Mi. Kautz 14, Lebria 6, Reyes 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-13, 20-25, 30-31, 54-43.

Second Game

KHS 37 – J. Santos 12, Lizama 7, Iriarte 6, Dela Cruz 5, T. Santos 3, Mettao 2.

SSHS 35 – Rogoyowa 20, Achas 5, Lumbad 4, Amandus 4, Sabino 2.

Scoring by quarters: 4-0, 14-5, 26-19, 37-35.

2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Yankees pitcher makes eye contact with his catcher before throwing a pitch against the Tigers during their game in the second round of the regular season of the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Giants pitcher checks the runner on first base.

A Cardinals batter prepares to swing his bat.

The Padres' Kainoa Wanket hits his target.

A Tigers batter waits for a pitch from the Yankees.

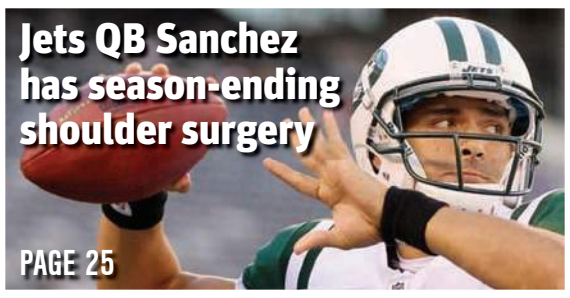
The Tigers first baseman stretches to beat a Yankees runner.

A Cardinals runner gets ready to steal second base.

A Cardinals runner runs back safely to first base.

A Dodgers batter looks back at the umpire after being called for a strike.

Saipan Tribune
Sports



Swimmers collect PBTS in 50m freestyle

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru competes in the 400m freestyle race in the Mariana Islands Swimming Federation-hosted first tournament of the season held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 50m freestyle event in the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation-hosted first tournament of the season drew the biggest participants and the most personal best times.

In the women's 50m freestyle race held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi, 15 of the 20 swimmers notched PBTs. The list includes Sophia Gauran (36.98 seconds), Kyona Rivera (37.07 seconds), Karen Irinaka (40.45 seconds), Katherine Illahi (41.48 seconds), Aika Watanabe (42.71 seconds), Yoshino Megumi (44.59 seconds), Shiela Pascual (54.47 seconds), Kana Suzuki (57.74 seconds), and Shaunalyn Babauta (1:06.13). Completing the list were Saipan Swim Club's Jinie Thompson (44.70 seconds), Sami Nimura (49.19 seconds), Ayaka Sato (55.31 seconds, Ashley De Cortney (56.30 seconds), and Nieves Villagomez (1:08.21).

SSC's Victoria Chentsova registered the fast-

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3 in tight race for batting honors

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Padres' Patrick Tenorio is at bat during their game against the Yankees in the Triple A league early this month at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Top 3 leaders in the batting chart are in a close race with the statistics from five more games in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League have yet to be counted.

Battling neck-and-neck for the batting champion title are the Dodgers' Craig Aguon and the Padres' Khobby Kaipat and Patrick Tenorio, who all recorded batting averages of at least .400 as of Oct. 3. Aguon has the lead with his average of .467 (14-for-30 at bat), while Kaipat holds an average of .444 after going 16-for-36. Tenorio is still in the thick of the fight with his .433 off his 13-for-30 performance at the plate. The winner of the batting race will be decided once the statistics from the four games over the weekend and one make-up match (Cardinals versus the Dodgers) last night are in.

Joining Aguon, Kaipat, and Tenorio in the Top 15 are the Yankees' Darion Jones (.368/14-for-38), M.J. Sakisat (.355/11-for-31), and Roke Tenorio (.343/12-for-35), the Giants' Franco Nakamura (.313/10-for-32), the Padres' Lancaster Secharmidal (.281/9-for-32), the Giants' Kenji Yamagata (.273/9-for-33) and Jesse Brel (.265/9-for-34), the Dodgers' Jhace Palacios (.250/9-for-36), the Padres' Kainoa Wanket (..250/8-for-32) and Verlance Secharmidal (.242/8-for-33), the Braves' Lucio Kalen (.233/7-for-30), and the Giants' K.J. Deleon Guerrero (.200/6-for-30).

Besides barging into the Top 15 of the batting race, K.J. Deleon Guerrero also made it to the runs leaders list with his field-best 14 runs. Verlance Secharmidal and Brel are tied in second with 12 each, while Roke and Patrick Tenorio, and the Braves' A.J. Lizama have 11 apiece.

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Lady Ayuyus slip past Lady Rays

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kagman High School won its debut in the varsity division of the 2013-2014 MISO Girls Basketball League after pulling off an exciting 37-35 victory over Saipan Southern High School last Tuesday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Lady Ayuyus made a big defensive stop in the closing seconds of the game to save the 2-point victory in their first game of the season and join opening day winner MHS Lady Dolphins in the leaderboard.

Ahead by only a deuce after Angela Iriarte lost possession on her way to their frontcourt and Southern's Serafina Rogoyowa earlier banked a shot, Kagman coach Frank Mettao called for a timeout at the 16.5 seconds mark of the fourth canto. When the game resumed, the Lady Rays made the inbound from the right sideline with Cathy Amandus receiving the ball.

See LADY on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Kagman High School player plays tough defense against Saipan Southern High School's Serafina Rogoyowa during the fourth quarter of their game in the varsity division of the MISO caging last Tuesday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.